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Hunger!

Lino Cut By Sudhir Khastgir

Pen Portrait

TRYGVE LIE: WORLD CITIZEN NO 1

(See Page 5)

Short Story

By AAMIR ALI

I, TOO, WAS A WOMAN ONCE!

No, no, don't shrink from me. Why are you afraid?

I am a human being too. Or, at least, I was. But that was a long time ago, and perhaps now I no longer look like one. Perhaps I no longer am one. Yes, you were quite right to shrink away from me. I am not a pleasant object to look at. These sores that you see on me are a filthy sight, aren't they? They belong to a filthy disease. Syphilis, they call it. But I tell you, I was human once.

That was a long time ago. Not when you count it in days or years for it was only three years ago, but the number of days have little to do with time. These three years have been a longer time than all the thirty years of my life; they have made a far greater difference to me than all the years of my life previous to it.

I was a happy woman once. I had a home, a husband, and two children. What more could I want? There was work for me to do, and there was food for me to cook. Sometimes the food was not much; sometimes the children did cry because they wanted more, but there was always something to look forward to—always better times ahead. Now there is nothing for me to look forward to, no better times ahead. I have no home now, my husband is dead, and my children are also dead. But perhaps that is good.

We used to live in the village of Patahari. It was not a very big village, but we were contented there. My husband used to work as a labourer. My son was about four years old, and my daughter was two. Then the great famine came.

Everywhere round us people were dying. People left their homes and took their belongings to go and look for food in some new part of the country. Gone were the contented happy looks of the people, to be replaced by misery which looked as if it had been there since the beginning of time. It does not take long for hunger to change the face of men and villages. A few weeks is enough, for when hunger comes to a village it comes to everyone in it, and not only to a few. Such was the hunger that came in those days.

Death became a regular visitor to Patahari, and often he was blessed when he came. My husband was not very strong, because he had been suffering lately from the shivering fever. I was afraid that he would not be able to live long. I prayed in the temple to our goddess to protect him, but what could she do against hunger? Not even a goddess can fight hunger. And so he died.

It is not pleasant to have a dead man in the hut. And when the dead man is your husband, your protector, and your supplier; then it is torture. I wanted to burn the body, as it ought to be burnt. But who was there to burn it? Half the village had gone, people were dying everywhere. They did not have either the time or the energy to worry themselves with the ills of other people, or to attend to such formalities as burning. I could not have done the burning even if I had wanted to by myself. The children were crying on the floor. I had to look after them now, and not worry about the man who was dead.

It was easy to make up my mind. I could either stay there and starve, or I could go with the others towards the town, in the hope of work and food. I took the little money I had and set off, my daughter in my arms, my son hanging on to sari. We begged on the way, and were occasionally fed.

It was tiring, walking for four or five days without much food. And when we arrived at the town, my children were half dead. My son was more exhausted, as he had walked. They were so weak that they did not have the strength to cry. It was my duty to find them food as soon as I could.

It did not take me a long to find out that it was not possible for me to get work of any sort. There were many others, hundreds of others like me, all hunting for any sort of work. And what work could I do, weak and helpless as I was? No, I realised that I could not support my children by working, because there was no work to be had.

I wonder if you can imagine my helplessness, my despair? To look at my children was torture, because they were fading away so visibly. I wanted to help them, I was ready to do anything, do you hear me? anything to save them. Yet what could I do? Lying on the pavement of the town, I kept awake throughout the night, wondering what I should do, what I could do. But I made up my mind about one thing. I would not stay in the town any longer. There was no salvation in the town. It was useless going back to Patahari. So I would take my children along, outside the town, to some other village if I could. If that were not possible, and it was the wish of God that we should die, then we would die on the road, rather than wait for grim death on cold pavement of an inhospitable town.

So we walked along, slowly, out of the town, resting often. We were not the only ones, who walked then with misery and suffering. But for all I cared or knew, we might have been the only ones in the whole world. Outside the town, we stopped by the roadside, for my little one could go no longer.

Dusk fell, and the moon came up. It was a big moon, and so the night was not dark at all. Cars were passing up and down the road, blowing the dust into our faces. Most of them were cars and trucks of the army, for there was a Camp not far away. I had heard of it. One lorry came and stopped near us, and some soldiers got down, but I was not really conscious of this until one of the soldiers came up to me and stood in front of me, looking at me. He stood there for some time, then he held out to me a loaf of bread. I said nothing, but took it from him. and gave it to my children. They ate it hungrily. The soldier gave me some more. I did not stay to ask who he was or why he was doing this, but I took all he gave and shared it with my children.

Then the soldier asked if I would come along with them in the truck. I grew rather wary at this. He insisted that he would give me more food and also money. I realised vaguely what he meant, and I caught my breath with shame. I will give you food and money, he said. I looked at my children. They were my flesh and blood, they were part of me, for they had grown up inside me. It was my first duty to look after them.

> *"I have nowhere to go, no one to go to. I wondered why I had taken the trouble to prolong my life.... I had made a great sacrifice to live longer, but that lengthened life was not worth-while, for it led nowhere."*

Don't you agree? Don't you think that that was so? You must, how can you think differently? If you had seen your children starving, withering away for lack of food, I tell you, you would have sold yourself a hundred times over for a few morsels. I know it was wrong to go with the soldiers, for I had heard stories about them. And yet I knew that that was the only way. That was the only way in which I could fulfil my duty.

What about my children? I asked. Bring them along, he said. I will show you where you can keep them.

I went with them in the truck. There were about twelve or fifteen soldiers in it. We stopped at one place, and the soldier who had given me the food told me to get off with the children. He called to someone and a woman came out from a low-roofed hut. Your children will be safe here, he said. I will bring you back here later on. Reluctantly, I left the children with the strange woman, and saw that they were given a place on the floor to sleep. Then I climbed into the truck again.

It was not an easy time for me at all, the first night. I had made up my mind that it must be, for the sake of the children. But the actual thing is far more difficult than a mere decision. And when one has been brought up throughout to observe modesty and cleanliness as the highest virtues, it is a great and terrible thing to try and change overnight. I was a frightened and quivering woman for the next few hours—but those hours passed, as all hours do. And I breathed a thankful sigh as I was taken back to the house where my children were. The soldier said that I could stay there, and he gave me three rupees.

I went in the hut, and found my daughter crying. My son was still lying on the ground as if asleep. But the moment I saw his twisted little body, I knew that all was not well. I went down on my knees, and touched him, and I knew he was dead. It was a strange death, for it had come quietly and without any warning. If I had been in my right mind I might have taken that as a warning that what I was doing was not pleasing to the gods. But I only thought that I must try harder and harder to keep my other child alive.

And so my life went on in that camp. My task seemed to me no longer hateful, and I soon grew accustomed to it. I was given food, and occasionally some money and even ornaments. But these grew less and less, for I grew old very quick over there. But I kept my child alive.

There were many other women living in that camp, and they all lived the life that I lived. They had all been forced into it through poverty and hunger too, and we talked and sympathised with each other. Most of them had ceased to think of any other sort of life except the kind they led, and I soon learned not to think also.

But then, after about two and a half years in that camp, my child died. She got cholera and within three days, she was dead. Then I cried as I had not cried for many years, as I had not cried when my son had died. And I thought I would die with her too, but I lived on, for I could not die.

And then the army camp moved away to somewhere else, and our mode of livelihood was gone. We were left alone over there, not knowing what to do with ourselves. Many of the women began to drift away to other hunting grounds, for we who had spent so many years of our lives in this profession could not suddenly change and adapt ourselves to other work. No one would be willing to have us, anyway, with our evil reputation.

I have nowhere to go, no one to go to. I wondered why I had taken the trouble to prolong my life. It would have been much better had I died with my husband, or with my children. I had made a great sacrifice to live longer, but that lengthened life was not worthwhile, for it led nowhere, and it had been unable to save the ones I loved, and for whose sake I had sacrificed myself. And now I wander the streets of the town, old before my time, diseased, ugly, and always hungry.

I know I am not a pleasant sight to look on, but I would have you remember that I, too, was a woman once; I too, have been a human being, as honest and virtue-loving as you or anyone else.

"Why is the Cashier wearing that hat?"
"The auditors have just been sir!"

MOPSY by GLADYS PARKER
SO RITA'S MARRIED? IS SHE HAPPY?
TERRIBLY! THE ONLY THING THAT ANNOYS HER IS HER HUSBAND!
GLADYS PARKER
3-8

"If they made hats to fit brains you couldn't find one small enough!"
"And you'd be able to wear a walnut shell for a bowler!"

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WORLD CITIZEN NO. 1

By ALFRED JOACHIM FISCHER

Pen-Portrait

Trygve Lie,

First Secretary-General Of U.N.O.

When the United Nations were electing the President for their London Assembly, M. Gromyko, on behalf of the Russian delegation, proposed the Norwegian Foreign Minister, M. Trygve Lie, but M. Spaak won by a small majority.

A few weeks later, the Security Council had to decide on the important appointment of a permanent General Secretary. This time it was Mr. Stettinius, the American delegate, who proposed M. Trygve Lie. After prolonged debates in the course of which, one candidate appeared too much pro-Anglo-Saxon, another too Russophil, the Big Five agreed on the 50-year-old Norwegian.

Strategically Norway's situation is between the Western and the Russian spheres. Well aware of this delicate position, she did not wish to belong to any block with a definite tendency, though every Norwegian is nowadays prepared to fulfill all his duties and obligations within an international security system.

SERVANT OF THE WORLD

The fact, that M. Lie's straightforward political life lifts him above any suspicion as to his favouring any power or power groups, makes him a suitable man to act as "servant of the world", as he modestly interprets his new task. World Citizen No. 1, a title used by many of these congratulating him, he regards as presumptious. His country, which gladly records this honour as an appreciation of its gallant fight and resistance, is respected by all and feared by none. Above all, Norway is one of those small nations, which have two great advantages:-Unburdened by inverted inferiority complexes, she is also free of chauvinism. Trygve Lie can look back on a great Norwegian tradition.

In his first speech before the U. N. Assembly, he gave a definition of the phrase "international unity" and mentioned the name of Bjornson, that great national poet of Norway, who had fought for the freedom of the oppressed Poles, Czechs and Slovaks forty years ago. Frequently he has been referring to yet another famous son of his people: Fridtjof Nansen. Nansen, the explorer and humanitarian, regarded a world peace without Russia's active co-operation as an impossibility.

M. Lie holds the same view. In August 1941, he called on the then Soviet ambassador in London, M. Maisky, with the suggestion that the diplomatic relations between the two neighbouring countries should be resumed. An eternity seems to have passed since that formal step, which has resulted in a lasting and sincere friendship. Nor was there any loosening in the traditional, emotional, cultural and economic ties existing between Great Britain and Norway. Asked for his sentiments towards England, Trygve Lie replied simply: "I need not think much about this question, for the mentality of the British is so familiar to me, that I even think in the same way as they do."

Exiled to Great Britain during the war, he presented his hosts with 4,000,000 tons of Norwigian shipping-invaluable asset for England's war effort, particularly when she stood alone.

TWO PARALLELS

Very often comparisons are being made between M. Lie and the British Foreign Secretary Mr. Bevin, and their stocky figures, their popular sense of humour as well as their backgrounds and political careers bear considerable affinity. Both have risen from the lower ranks of the people. This fact has never been forgotten by Trygve Lie. In his first declaration as General Secretary of U. N. O. he stressed the duty to help the distressed masses of the world, to feed them adequately, to clothe them and warm them. Only the fulfillment of that social mission would ensure that the victims of the second world war had not died in vain. Both Mr. Bevin and M Lie owe their brilliant political careers to the confidence of the Trade Unions, which have always, remained their chief concern.

In other spheres again, there are parallels with Truman's Secretary of State, Mr. James F. Byrnes. The American and the Norwegian are both self-made-men, who had to fight hard to pay for their studies. They both started their careers as errand boys. (M. Gerhardsen, Norway's Prime Minister, commenced in the same way.) Actually, M. Lie's political career began even before his professional one. Son of a carpenter, he was a very conscious Labour Party man. At the age of ten, he borrowed a horse and cart on election days and rode through the outer districts of Aker. Passers-by were politely invited to get in. Having done so, however, they were overwhelmed by a torrent of clever political agitation. Setting down his fares in front of the polling place, young Lie was convinced that they would give their vote to the proper party. In latter years he has also been a successful organiser, though perhaps not always with the same enthusiasm.

A STAUNCH TRADE UNIONIST

Trygve Lie is fond of young people and likes to surround himself with youth Political friends of the new General Secretary of U. N. O. relate that he used to bribe his three daughters with countless icecreams in order to have them in the front row of any audience

As a boy, Trygve Lie belonged to the Trade Union Youth Organisation, at the age of fifteen he enrolled as an ordinary member of the Labour Party. Working in the afternoon as an errand boy in order to support his widowed mother, he attended school in the morning and did his prep. at night. He was to become an artisan like his deceased father and all his brothers. However a Socially minded teacher recognised his special gifts and advised him to study. Having passed his matric with honours, Trygve Lie won a scholarship for the Oslo University, where he enrolled at the age of 19 as a student of law. At the same time he was already a member of the Trade Unions Executive. Norway's future Foreign Minister passed his final exams. with distinction.

In 1919 Trygve Lie established himself as a lawyer. He also acted as Secretary to the Central Executive of the Norwegian Labour Party and legal adviser to the Trade Unions. M. Lie's initiative was then already responsible for the most favourable wages agreements and a progressive labour arbitration law. Young and versatile, he also played a prominent part in the administration of his native Aker (near Oslo).

In 1921 Trygve Lie married Hjordis Jorgensen, with whom he grew up. In her, he found one of those rare and ideal companions who know the art of listening without giving unwanted advice. Lie himself had been jocularly called Norway's most enthusiastic fighter for women's rights. He was a passionate defender of true social equality of women tried to secure for them equal chances in careers and pay. In the Ministries, which he subsequently controlled, every chance of promotion was open to women.

A CLASSIC AUTHOR

Without going to extremes, Trygve Lie has always belonged to the Left wing of the Labour Party. His books, which rank among the classical Socialist literature, are the best testimony. In 1931 he published "The Anti-Labour Laws and the battle against them" and "The New Labour Arbitration Law." Joint author was Viggo Hansteen, whom Terboven made into a Trade Union martyr. His widow, a prominent Communist Deputy, later became M. Lie's cabinet colleague as Norway's first woman minister.

M. Lie's special hobby is sport. Every youth delegation found him an agreeable friend who willingly procured for them off-time and play grounds for games. For many years Chairman of the Worker's Sports Union, Trygve Lie is himself an ardent sportsman: Athlete, Ski adept like all Norwegians and a keen tennis player. Eden and Lie have never fought any political duels,, but they opposed each other in many a game of tennis. Like many Osloers, Lie is an active football player. In the matches of the Chelsea team, they were invariably spurred on by loud cries of the Norwegian visitor, who declared this to be a "healthy lung exercise." During his period of exile, he frequently met at football matches another lover of that game—King Haakon. A friendly, indeed cordial relationship has existed between the monarch and his Foreign Secretary for many years. Obliged to leave his government post to become international in the best sense of the word, he is regretful not to be able any longer to serve his country and his kind direct. This attachment of the Left Socialist to the representative of the dynasty speaks for both

SUCCESSFUL ORGANISER

Norwegians usually travel to the South. Trygve Lie, however, did not go to Italy for his honeymoon but to Soviet Russia. The young couple burned to see the life and development of a Socialist State. The only blot on their happiness was the misfortune by which they lost all their suitcases. New things could not yet be bought, so the newly-weds were unable to attend any meetings because their only set of underwear was on the cloths-line. No Soviet complex has ever troubled Trygve Lie. It is his conviction that Russia is equally interested, for security reasons, in a free and independent Norway as England and America.

In 1926 he was elected as member of the National Executive of his party. Nine years later John Nygaardsvold invited him to join his Labour Government as Minister of Justice M. Lie was then 38. In 1937 he also entered the Storting as an M. P. As a personal success, the profit-sharing bill was perhaps the nearest to his heart.

Trygve Lie is a successful organiser. He adheres to the principal of Starting work early and stopping late at night with only a short midday rest. His future U. N. O. colleagues—in the Eight-Men-Cabinet and the numerous sub-committees—may find the following hints useful: as a rule their new chief is gentle and good tempered. Only disturbances when he is tired and engaged in some important work may cause an occassional outburst. An amicable apology invariably comes not later than 30 minutes after. Trygve Lie never sulks—with one exception: He may sit brooding for days, if a member of his family forgets his birthday. In London this family had acquired big, congenial dimensions. M. Lie's flat was the rendezvous of young Norwegians and soldiers on leave

EXILE FROM NORWAY

In 1939, the important Ministry for Supply and Shipping had been entrusted to him. He anticipated that his country might have to suffer under the blockade even if it were kept out of the war. So large stocks of supply were speedily put into storage. Norway was the only country on the continent, which was not compelled to introduce petrol rationing during the first months of the war. When Minister Dr. Brauer submitted Germany's ultimatum, the Norwegian state, thanks to M. Lie's foresight had reserves of rye, wheat, coal etc. available in unprecedented quantities. Minister Lie accompanied the King and the Crown Prince on their hazadrous flight through the whole of Norway to Otta. In a tourist hotel on the hills of Romsdalen, he rejoined the rest of the Norwegian Government. Trygve Lie was still wearing galoshes and a lounge suit, as in all the hurry it had been impossible to find a suitable skiing outfit for his bulky frame. On reaching Aandalsnes, he made contact with the British Headquarters.

The supplies essential for the continuation of the war in northern Norway were secured under immense difficulties by Minister Lie.His greatest day, however, was the salvation of the fleet for the Allied war effort. Working day and night with a number of experts in a small mountain hotel he managed to snatch 1000 ships or 4,000,000 tons of shipping from the Germans often under their very noses. He worked out provisional measures requisitioning the entire Norwegian fleet for his Government and resulting in the foundation of a Norwegian Trade and Shipping Commission, the largest ship-owning concern in the world. Those 1000 ships have rendered invaluable services to Great Britain in the battle of supplies.

FOREIGN MINISTER

During the critical months before coming to England Trygve Lie had yet another important mission. His voice answered quickly through a portable radio transmitter. He succeeded by his impressive words to frustrate the forged orders to merchant vessels and steer them into Allied ports. In November 1940 Trygve Lie took over the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, at first provisionally but from the 21st February 1942 in a permanent capacity. By his sincere and clever way of negotiating he acquired many friends in England and among Allied diplomats.

Yet Lie never lost his close contact with the Home Front. His information services worked smoothly. The blowing-up of a Norwegian bridge, for example, was often heard in London sooner than in Oslo. Harmonious co-operation between the exiled governments and the Home Front made for those ideal conditions, to which Norway's speedy rehabilitation is due. M. Lie himself, went to Norway for several weeks during the war by dangerous clandestine ways. Chain-smoking Turkish cigarettes as usual, he told his London friends, who remarked on his long disappearance: "I have been extremely busy."

Trygve Lie is a good mixer. Aided by his comprehensive knowledge of languages. He speaks English, French and German, slowly but intelligently, but only very few words of Russian.

The first General Secretary of U. N. O. calls himself a servant of the world. He can become that servant if he succeeds in creating an instrument, which supplants nationalistic egoism and prestige mania by international collaboration. Trygve Lie is a strong personality abounding with energy. He has directed his country's fleet safely to Allied ports. Let us hope to God, that he will now be successful in steering the Allied countries into the haven of a lasting Peace.

HUNGER

The lino-cut on the cover page is by the well-known artist Sudhir Khastgir, an exhibition of whose paintings is being held at present at the Bombay Art Society's Salon, Rampart Row. Fort, Bombay.

Children Of The Slums

By Miss Chitra Naik

Along the lanes of Naigam, especially on a quiet afternoon when the mills are full and the B. D. D. chawls half-empty, when fleas have a leisurely repast on the rotting skins of drowsy ittle mongrels, and noisy children are shut up in schools, you will find roaming about a boy of about sixteen, dreamy-eyed, whistling snatches from popular 'kawwalies' and vulgar film-songs.

This Is Parshuram

His dark blue shirt and soiled white pyjama, his dirty white pathan-chappals, the many coloured kerchief round his neck, his thick lips red with 'pan', and his oily long hair well turned back from his low forehead, give him a shabbily flashy appearance. I must not really call him a child, for being sixteen he is in his adolescence, and suffers from the usual complexes of the adolescent. He is very shy in the midst of women. But he is rather tall for his age and while talking to him I had to raise my neck and turn my gaze high up. This drove away some of his shyness, and he began to speak with some of the self-assurance of a man. I am sure he quietly rejoiced that he could look down—take it literally, please—on me, for I saw a funny smile flit across his mischievous eyes.

A Typical Case

Two years ago Parshuram was in the Naigam Welfare Centre, quiet an average and sensible child. After he had finished his course there, the authorities got him a job in a soap-factory He got money for work which appeared to him somewhat easy, and this money went straight to his head. He craved for more and began gambling. At first everything was all right—the gang allowed him to win.

And then, all of a sudden he started losing heavily. This irritated him beyond measure because he had begun to consider himself a clever gambler. To forget his losses he began frequenting the movies. He fell in love with—and still loves—the "Hunterwali" and "Chashmewali", and "Bandookwali" type of pictures. He haunted the talkies which specialized in showing the exploits of Dick Dix and Tom Mix. And—the inevitable result—he identified himself with all the fighting heroes he saw on the screen.

In the soap-factory he quarrelled with a boy of his own age over a gambling bout. Both of them made a lavish use of kicks and blows, but Parshuram was not satisfied with this out-of-date way of fighting. Remembering the cine-fights, he picked up a heavy piece of wood and with faultless aim threw it at his adversary. The result—a police-case and loss of job for Parshuram.

Then Parshuram somehow got disgusted with steady jobs, their rules and regulations. He now refuses to take any and does all sorts of odd jobs to get money. But one thing merits appreciation—he does not steal, nor does he beg. He is, besides an exceptionally good organizer. During the recent strike of B.D.D. sweepers he formed a 'Cleaning committee' out of the youngsters in his hawl, led the 'committee' to work with a big-broom in his own hand, and kept his chawl and its surroundings bright and clean, while the whole neighbourhood resembled an over-full dust-bin

A "Living" Child

Parshuram is a willing guide to the chawls and will show you all that is worth seeing. I asked him to show me something interesting and he took me to a room which was filled with chattering women. At the far end of the room was a big earthen 'chula'—half-a-dozen sticks of firewood spluttering in it and sending up dull orange flames and thick coils of smoke

A hunch-back woman sat near it baking bread and her new-born baby (her sixth or seventh) howled in a hammock tied to nails on opposite walls Her sister-in-law sat near it nursing her own year-old son I had to be told that he had completed one year for he looked like a child of five or six months! His body was burning with fever and the skin had all dried up so that every bone showed out of it.

He was so yellow that it was difficult to detect anywhere his original swarthy colour. I touched his arm to see how hot it felt and instantly my fingers drew themselves back as if they had touched a live wire. I am not very strong in tactile memory but I have not forgotten the touch even to this moment. Never had I touched anything so dried up—lifeless—such flesh which had not the least touch of human flesh—and yet I had touched the body of a living child!

"Jagi"

His mother had given him a thick piece of 'chappati' and he indifferently drew his tongue across it. He could not swallow it and looked insensately at me with his vacant stare.

My fingers twitched. Their tips still performed the involuntary action of drawing themselves away from the boy's skin. Inspite of my onlookers' detachment I felt a lump-rise and throttle me. The room was suffocating. full of smoke, void of air, void of all that is human. I turned and left it.

On the threshold of the room I stumbled against Jagi who was resting her tired little limbs on the bare, cold, cement floor of the passage. She had her home in the opposite room but for some reason she always seems to prefer the passage to it at least for her afternoon nap. Jagi is a fair complexioned child, about four years old. Her mother is a Mang Garudi—sturdy, very dark, and has black teeth. The Mang Garudis are a notorious criminal tribe, and Jagi's father, I hear, is still serving his term in some jail

Jagi's brothers and sisters—she has quite a number of them—are all dark like her mother. But Jagi has straw-coloured hair, light brown eyes and the soft down on her arms and legs shines like gold in the sun—even from beneath the layer of dust on her unwashed body. She is a war-time baby, and from this one can draw any conclusions one likes. Jagi was dressed in a buttonless violet frock too big for her. She told me that her mother had got it when she went begging at the time of the last solar eclipse. Some superstitious granny had made an offering of it to the Mang' woman.

Proud Of Her Frock

Jagi is immensely proud of her frock. And she has good reason to be proud because all the other children in the family go nude and she is the only one privileged to have the luxury of clothes. She is her mother's favourite because she is fair and also very clever at begging. The way Jagi makes her stomach cave in and the pathetic tone she uses to declare that she has been starving for three days—or even more, for three days are not always enough to make particularly hard-hearted alms-givers thaw into flinging a pice—is simply inimitable. She knows that bus-stops are quite good at fetching an easy income and you may find her busy mornings and evenings at the queue-sheds on the fringe of the Khodadad Circle.

Shiva is Jagi's brother—her half brother, I guess. He goes to school—or to be more correct, he takes himself away to school from his home for which he has no affection. He is a very plain child and rather dotty, and so he is not liked by his mother. He is of no use in the house, nor is he good at begging for he has no histrionic talent in him. Being chosen by his mother as the usual target for the showering of her wrath, and being the recepient of her unmerciful beatings—he has developed a curious sort of love for the school

A "Patient" Student

He is to be found patiently sitting on its steps for hours together, waiting for the door to open and give him shelter, and in the evening when school is over and the rest of the children frisk and gambol in the garbage littered lanes, Shiva lingers on the steps, his crazy eyes watching the scene. Only when hunger begins relentlessly attacking his little belly, he gets up and with faltering steps enters his chawl scared at thoughts of the thrashing that might be awaiting him on his arrival. When I entered Shiva's class, he was in the act of wiping his nose with his right arm. As I stood near him he looked at me with his reddish-yellow eyes—the clouded eyes peculiar to children in the Bombay slums.

Shiva was dressed in a very, very fashionable manner—in a bathing costume! The blue of the cloth had faded and Shiva's dark body showed through the numerous holes. Shiva told me that the dress was brought by his mother, he did not know from where. Those were his special school-clothes. Otherwise he wore nothing.

Escape From Begging

Shiva's plight reminds me of that of little Chimi who attends a Municipal school at Worli. I rate the Worli slum-area quite a deal higher in civilization than Naigam. As you will see fromChimi's instance, the Worli children have a greater sense of self-respect. Chimi is a girl of about six and she goes to school in a discarded blouse of her mother's. It does not quite come down to her knees, but it suffices to make her feel that she has an adequate covering.

Chimi likes school because there she can escape work and begging. Besides the school is a place where there is no beating and where the teachers are kinder than her mother. There she gets a slate on which she can draw whatever she likes, and make a pretence of writing because she has not yet learnt to write.

She likes to sing songs and tell fairy tales. She perhaps likes to think of herself as a golden-haired princess but her hair in reality is not combed for months together. It falls on her shoulders in a tangled mass and is a blissful haven of refuge for hundreds of lice. Bath, of course, is taboo. Chimi does not seem to remember what the thing called 'bath' is.

She washes her blouse only when it is impossible any longer to keep flies away from it. But she does not want people to know that the notable blouse is the only article of clothing she can boast of. If you ask her whether she has any other clothes she will stretch her arms wide and tell you, "Ghari mhop haiti"—meaning, she has plenty of them at home!

An Important Person!

Chimi somewhat resembles Kai, the child I admire most of all the slum-dwelling children I have met so far.

****

Meet

Parshuram The Flashy, Jagi Proud Of Her Frock, Shiva The Devoted Student, Chimi The Singer, Kai The Expert Thief, —And Many Others Who Are Born In Hovels & Live On The Pavements —Heaven Knows How!

****

If you take the bus for Dharavi either near the Sion railway-station or the Mahim bus-terminus you can pay a visit to little Kai. Kai is quite an important person though few adults around her think so

Kai is rarely to be found at home, except at night when she curls up and sleeps like a log in a corner of the room During daytime Kai's main occupation of course is begging. She is well grounded in the art of begging and earns quite a decent income. When she thinks that she has gathered sufficient dough for the day and something to lay by for the days when business is slack, She makes her purchases. she is very fond of the flowery 'Lahi' of maize. She

(Continued on Page 20)

WILLING TO RISK IT

The smiling, confident young man entered a New York bank. He stopped up to the manager's desk.

"Good day, sir," he announced. 'Has your bank any need of a highly ntelligent, college trained man?"

The manager poised a pencil over a form. "Your name?"

"Gradwell Lesserman."

"Experience?"

"Just out of college."

"I see," said the manager. "And what kind of position are you seeking?"

"Well," mused the young man, "I want something in the executive line. A vice-presidency, for example."

The manager put down his pencil. "I'm really very sorry," he said, sarcastically, "but we already have twelve vice-presidents."

The young man waved a hand. "Oh, that's all right," he stated, happily "I'm not superstitious!"

* * *

"I've just been congratulating Colonel Blaze," said a guest at a luncheon. "He's been appointed governor of a prison."

"Really?" asked his pretty neighbour. "Now, for a job like that does one need influence, or does one just start as a convict and rise from the ranks?"

"I haven't seen you at church lately, William," said the vicar. "What's the matter?"

"My daughter's learning to play the harp," replied William.

"But what's that got to do with it?"

"Well, I'm not so keen now on going to Heaven as I was!"

* * *

A man, obviously distressed, rushed into the bar of his club and ordered and drained two double whiskies.

Asked what troubled him, he said: "My wife's just eloped in my car with my best friend."

"Good Heavens!" said a fellow-member, sympathetically. "Not your new car?"

* * *

They were discussing girls.

"How is it, Jack," asked Joe, "that you get on so well with the girls?"

"Easy," was the reply. "Try flattery. For instance, the girl I was with last night got a fly in her eye. I said, 'I can't see how it could miss such big eyes as yours.' After that I had her eating out my hand."

A few days later they met again.

"H'm," said Joe. "I don't think much of your flattery stunt. I tried it, but it didn't come off."

"What happened?"

"Why, the girl I was with got a fly in her mouth."

Our Exclusive Feature

America Celebrates Thanksgiving Day

Pearl Buck, the humane and true friend of the oppressed and depressed millions of Asia.

But No Thanks For The Atom Bomb!

By Pearl Buck

We have had a wonderfully beautiful autumn. The frosts have delayed, and the grass is still green. The trees were brilliant a few weeks ago with changing colour, the maples scarlet and gold, the oaks wine red, the white-barked birches a pale yellow. But the leaves have dropped now. In the front of every house in our village men are sweeping them into heaps when they come home from work in the evening, and children jump into the heaps with shrieks of delight. The piles are so big that the children can hide themselves entirely in leaves.

If it is a windless evening, a man will stoop and light a match and set fire to his heap and watch it burn, careful that the flames do not spread. All along the single street is fragrant with the delicately scented smoke. The light falls upon the faces of mothers and children standing to watch the fires. It is the end of summer and winter will come soon.

Thanksgiving Festival

This week we are all getting ready for our Thanksgiving Festival. It is a peculiarly American holiday, although of course it has the same meaning that harvest festivals have in any country. We are told that its origin is from our Pilgrim fathers, who after their first season of harvest set aside a day in which to give God thanks for rich harvests and special protection in a new land. Whatever the origin of Thanksgiving, it is to-day a home festival for all Americans.

Everywhere over our country families will gather together, relatives coming distances, in order to be under the family roof. It is a simple day and there are no special rites. In the morning, after breakfast, most families will go to church, dressed in their best clothes. There, with singing and prayer, they will give their thanks to God. When they come home again, the women folk will go to the kitchen to prepare the dinner, while men folk talk and perhaps walk together. The children will play together outside if they are in the country. They will gather the falling hickory nuts and walnuts and race over the hills. After the big dinner perhaps the whole family will go to a football game.

The dinner of course is the centre of the day. Special things are eaten—oyster soup, a great roasted turkey stuffed with break and celery and onions all browned together, and served with a sauce made of red cranberries. Vegetables come with the turkey, and after these there is the dessert of mince pie, a pie filled with raisins and spices and fruits, or perhaps our very American dish, pumpkin pie, a pastry crust filled with sweetened and spiced puree' of pumpkin. Families too poor to have turkey will have roast chicken or duck, or perhaps roast pork. Whatever the dish, the spirit is the same. It is the day when all families gather together to thank God and to renew old ties.

A Special Meaning

Of course this year the season has a special meaning. Many of our sons are home again from overseas. Mothers will spend unusual effort in their cooking and planning to express joy over the son come home. Many sons are still far away, and this will cast a shadow over the day and the family will remember the distant one, perhaps so far away even as India, and hope that next year this time, Tom or George will be home again and sitting here in his place. Many sons will never come home again. They lie buried in distant lands, and every heart will remember them and weep. All of us, wherever we are, will have one thought in our minds—"How can we prevent war ever coming again?"

Yes, our Thanksgiving Festival this year is shadowed by fresh fear of war. This fear is the result of our unwelcome possession of the atomic bomb. I think it is truthful to say that we are most unhappy about this bomb. I do not doubt that many of you were shocked and repelled by the news on that day, now months past, when you read that Americans had dropped upon a city of unknowing people a bomb so terrible that it passed all previous imagination. I can only tell you that we Americans were as shocked as you

None of us, except the handful of men who had decided on the use of this bomb, even knew of its existence. We were living as usual, hoping and longing for the end of the war as usual, when one day we picked up our newspapers and saw what we had done—what had already been done while we were living our usual day. We had had no inkling of the development of this dreadful weapon We do not know that atomic energy was released for man's use. The average man and woman in the United States had probably never heard those two words, atomic energy. They were as remote from our knowledge as they could possibly have been to any of you.

Shocked And Ashamed

Yet in one instant we discovered what we possessed and what we had done with it. We were shocked to the soul, horrified, rebellious. We had been made to do a thing foreign to our nature. We are not a cruel people; on the contrary, we can be almost sentimentally kind. All during the war certain persons had been trying to make us hate our enemies. But no great amount of hatred was stirred up against anybody. We did not even hate the Japanese on our own soil who had been interned by our military men. We were deeply ashamed of this internment when it included Americans of Japanese ancestry. I shall never forget the time when I appeared before a Board of Senators from the State Legislature in California.

They were conducting hearings on a proposed law to bar Japanese Americans from returning to their former homes in California. I went to protest such a law, and among others who came to protest was a plain, rather poor woman, her hands worn and colloused with work. She listened to my testimony and then she whispered to me, "I'm glad you feel this way. So do I. Some people can't understand it, because my boy is fighting out there in the Pacific. But I say these Japanese here aren't to blame for the war. They've always been real good people, so far as I could see. I don't want them punished for what they can't help any more than I can."

That, I think, was the general spirit of the average American during the war. We were sickened, therefore, when we read in the newspapers that we had developed the atomic bomb, and had used it. Protests poured in from everywhere, from churches and schools and organizations of citizens of all kinds. I wish you could have heard the protests of our people against the atomic bomb. You would have been comforted and reassured

The True Feeling

Of course we were immediately told by those responsible for the bomb that its use had "saved many American lives and ended the war." I don't think we have been comforted by this—at least many of us have not. We foresaw what is now happening—that the possession of this dreadful weapon has increased the suspicion between the peoples everywhere, and especially against us. We do not enjoy being suspected and disliked. Moreover, we foresee that unless some sort of sensible international agreement can be made and carried out about the possession of the secret of this bomb, more American lives will one day be lost than were ever saved. A very strong pressure is being put upon our leaders by our people to reach this settlement. We do not want to be the sole possessors of the atomic bomb. If there has to be such a weapon, it should belong not to one or two nations. Certainly we do not want to one of the two nations. This is the prevailing opinion in our country.

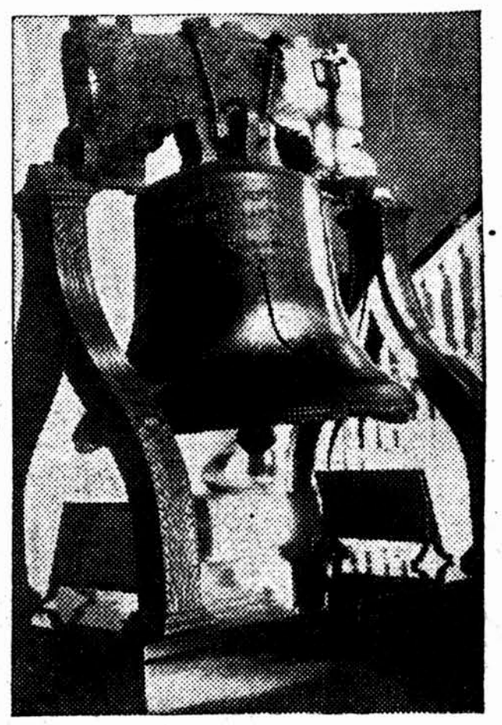
I should not be telling the truth if I said it was the only opinion There are others. But the spontaneous feeling of our people against the atomic bomb is the true one. I should like you to know this, not because I want to speak well of my own people if they do not deserve it. I want you to know it because you must know that most Americans consider the atomic bomb a great misfortune, for us first of all, as well as for the world. We are anxious to have it disposed of somehow, so that no one can use it again, ourselves included. If it cannot be disposed of, it must be controlled by an international group.

Solemn Reality

If good can come out of evil and sometimes perhaps it does, I can say that our shock and dismay have waked us up more than anything else to the wickedness and horror of wars. We have not suffered very much during this war. We were not bombed our loss of men was much less than we had feared it would be, and we suffered no real shortages There was even danger that the economic improvement which came to us through full employment in war industry might blind us to the immoral aspects of war. War has been too profitable for us.

But the atomic bomb, so secretly and easily produced that we knew nothing about it, has waked us up. Our scientists tell us that this bomb cannot possibly remain a secret and private possession of our own. We have seen what it can do. That it may one day be turned on us, makes war suddenly real to us. I can only hope that we will keep this solemn reality always before our eyes

Yes, there is a shadow over our homes this festival season. The ideals in which we believe were shattered in one hour over Japan, when thousands of innocent and unknowing people were killed. Those who died were technically our enemies But we know they were people like us, fathers and mothers and children in their homes. We are sad when we think of them. We are ashamed as we have never been ashamed before. It was not the sort of act for Americans to commit. We want our ideals back again. We want to be the kind of people we like to think we are.



The Liberty Bell of Philadelphia which boomed the birth of the United States in July 1776.

Song Of The Blackmarketeers

(With apologies to Arthur O'Shaughnessey)

"The Demonetization Ordinance is a step taken to deal with black-marketing. . . .!'

—Press Report.

We are the money-makers.
And we are the lenders of loans,
Wandering by crowded share-markets,
And sitting by ever-ringing phones;
Note-getters and note-forsakers,
At whom the Reserve Bank groans;
Yet we are the movers and shakers,
Of governments and countries and zones.

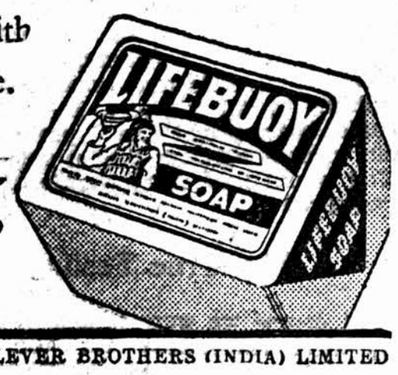
With wonderful high-denomination notes
We built up the world's great hoards;
And out of a fabulous rumour
We became the share-market's lords.
One man, with his thousands, at pleasure,
Could go forth and corner a market;
And three with their currency-notes' treasure
Could always decide where to park it.

And we, with our cashing and counting,
Ceaseless and sorrowless we!
The goods about us mounting
Of the blackened markets we see;
Our souls with crisp notes fluttering,
O men! it was bound to be
That we dwelt, in our cashing and counting,
A little apart from ye.

For we were afar with the looting,
In denominations now too high;
Yet, out of the infinite hoarding,
Intrepid, you hear us cry
How, spite of your economic scorning,
Once more Mammon's future draws nigh;
And already goes forth the warning:
The High Currency Ordinance must die!

—H.B.M.

Off to school and what will he pick up there? New knowledge, new ways—perhaps the germ of some epidemic! His Mother sends off her little man protected by all she has taught him, not least the daily use of Lifebuoy Soap to guard against "dirt-danger" which threatens even the healthiest boy with germs and possible disease.



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The Late Mr. J. B. Petit

By V. N. NAIK

Late J. B. Petit

Mr. Jehangir Bomanji Petit who died recently at the age of 68, was once a prominent figure in the business and public life of the city of Bombay.

As founder and proprietor of **The Indian Daily Mail,** an evening daily edited first by a Ceylonese, Mr. Holsinger by name, and later by Mr. Wilson of the **"Pioneer"** fame, Allahabad, and, in between, by Mr. C. Y. Chintamani for a brief space of one month and by Mr. K. Natarajan for a year at the most, Mr Petit became well-known to all.

The Indian Daily Mail was a great venture which, for the first time, introduced in Indian Journalism and in daily newspaper the art of illustrating reading matter by suitable pictures, photographs and cartoons that to-day have become it normal and indispensable feature. When **The Indian Daily Mail** had to be wound up after a few years of virile, independent and progressive journalism, Mr. Petit is said to have sunk in that responsible concern the colossal sum of thirty lakhs of rupees! The **Scrutator** in that journal was a remarkable feature introduced by Mr. Wilson and ably sustained in it during his editorship of that newspaper. It was a model of frank straightforward, independent broad-minded review of a week's happenings in India, without fear or favour, and without aught of malice or rancour to lower its tone. Within a brief period of its existence **The Indian Daily Mail** had become a popular daily, and one does not know how and where it had foundered financially. It is, all the same, to the eternal credit of Mr. Petit that he dared make such an experiment and set the model for others to follow and make a success of it.

PUBLIC CAREER

Mr. Petit was for many years a member of the Bombay Municipal Corporation and worked in that body as a civic father under the leadership of Sir Pherozshah Mehta. Two Parsees were especially taken under his wing by that veteran leader for training in the civic and larger public life of Bombay. One was Mr. J. B. Petit and the other was Mr. H. P. Mody. The latter is better known to fame to-day as Sir Homi Mody, a business-man, a member of the Central Assembly and last as member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, while Mr. J. B. Petit, in the evening of his life had fallen behind, leading a retired life except for a breezy pamphlet, now and then, like the one he had but recently written and published and privately circulated on the perennial subject of nepotism and title-hunting.

Petit's exit from public life almost synchronised with the extinction of **The Indian Daily Mail.** The writer of this note was introduced to Mr. Petit by a mutual friend some twenty years back. The friend insisted on my taking up the post of the secretary of the Imperial Citizenship Association which had fallen vacant through the death of Mr. Trivedi. And he put it to me that Mr. Petit, the Hon. Secretary of the Association had made the offer. So I joined but could not pull on with Mr. Petit for more than three months. The office was then located on Nicol Road, Ballard Estate, where, on the top-floor, Petit had his own firm. Mr. Petit was then a business-magnate, a director of many concerns, was financing and owning **The Indian Daily Mail** and was connected with many charitable and educational institutions in the city. He was, then, so to say, in the top form and at the peak of his career.

Daily he used to come to his rooms at 12 o'clock sharp and left office on the stroke of seven. His office room was in itself a curiosity. It had a large oblong table with innumerable drawers in which he pigeon-holed his letters and files about the many associations and concerns he had to deal with. He rang for his clerks frequently and dictated largely. He had the art of despatch and he did t with authority and control.

Though I parted company from him after a few month's intimate, daily, personal contact, we met each other regularly in the rooms of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society where he used to come every evening at seven, to read his newspapers and journals after he had withdrawn himself entirely from the noise and bustle of business and public life as he had done after the cessation of the **Indian Daily Mail.**

Mr. Petit was short of stature, of a stocky frame, dark in complexion, spectacled and had in pure, spotless, white kness at all times and in all seasons of the year. He was a good speaker though he rolled his words, and wielded a powerful pen. Though, so far as I know it, he was not graduated in any university, he must have received good English education and had learned a great deal for himself from the great University of life itself Born with a silver spoon in the mouth, he did not remain an idler or a lounger in life and cherished in his heart a deep feeling of sorrow and sympathy for the "down and out" in life. That was the reason of his intimate association with and hard work for many a charitable institution in the city.

INCORRUPTIBLE WORKER

I may say of him, from what little I saw of him from very close quarters, that, with all his whims and idiosyncracies, he was unselfish and incorruptible as a public worker, he loved fearless journalism and was liberal with his money—alas! too liberal—on projects which he felt would help to enlighten and consolidate public opinion. He never truckled to officialdom, and never plumped for titles. Whimsical he was, arrogant and self-assertive he may have struck some, but, with all this, he was not mean or vindictive, intriguing or cringing.

If he flared-up and shouted at you betimes, with the power of the long purse that he once commanded, he cooled down immediately, discovered his mistake, and showed eagerness to make up the quarrel, and to make amends. He liked those, I believe, who did not take things lying down and stood up for their own viewpoint.

Petit had once the promise of a great career before him. But the wheel of fortune let him down abruptly and at his death few knew him the man that he was in the heyday of his material prosperity, magnificent hospitality and sincere devotion to those whom he recognised like Mehta and Gokhale, as leaders of India. Adverse fortune is no crime, nor failure as the poet puts it. And one, who keeps men in such a fortune an incorruptible character and an even temper, deserved to be remembered and respected by those who happened to know him in his better days.

For that shows the gold in the man better than anything else. Such was Mr. J. B. Petit as I knew him in his pride of position and power, and as I learnt to respect him when that pride, power and position had deserted him.

MORAL VICTORY FOR R. I. N. MEN

Censure On Mishandling Of Situation

CENTRAL ASSEMBLY BACKS DEMANDS OF RATINGS

Masani Charges Govt. With Misleading British Premier

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23, (A.P.I.): The Assembly passed by 74 votes to 40, Mr. Asaf Ali's adjournment motion to discuss "the grave situation that has arisen in respect of the Indian Navy affecting practically the whole of it as a result of mishandling by the immediate authorities concerned."

STATEMENT ON LATEST POSITION

The Central Assembly met at 3 this afternon specially to debate Mr. Asaf Ali's adjournment motion on the R. I. N. strike.

At the outset Mr. Philip Mason, Secretary, made a statement on the latest situation.

The situation as regards indiscipline, Mr. Mason said, had practically come to an end. In Karachi, as he had mentioned in the House yesterday, Commander Curtis visited the establishments in Manora Island and spoke to the ratings there. Later he visited the "Hindustan", but the ratings there would not listen to him and would not discuss surrender. He gave them an ultimatum and warned that force would be used after one hour's time. The House was aware of the details and he would only add that 35 minutes after the ultimatum had expired they surrendered.

The latest casualty figures for the "Hindustan" were 8 ratings killed and 33 wounded. The situation in Karachi was normal and ratings in Manora Island were doing their routine duty.

In Bombay they unconditionally surrendered at 6-13 a.m. to-day. During the morning officers went on board ships. Work was being resumed everywhere. From other ports information received stated that the position was more or less the same. A number of ratings were demonstrating in sympathy with the Bombay ratings, but there had been no violence of any kind and there was no reason to suppose that on hearing the news from Bombay they had not gone back to work.

There was one very small item of information which provided a lighter turn in this very serious matter. In Delhi, where 8 ratings refused duty, a cook was asked to join in the indiscipline. When he was told that one of the reasons for the indiscipline was bad food, he refused to be a party to the demonstration saying: "Oh, no: The food is very good". "This", said Mr. Mason, "is a very small piece of information but it also indicates, I think, that many of the men who took part in this (indiscipline) did so for reason which were very insufficient"

REPLY TO QUESTIONS

Replying to supplementaries, Mr. Mason said that he had not yet got figures of casualties in Castle Barracks (Bombay). One R.I.M. Officer died of wounds and one R.I.N. Officer, one Army Officer and eight other ranks were wounded. He believed that the casualties among the R.I.N. ratings were very small indeed and considerably smaller than those at Karachi.

Continuing to answer supplementaries from all parts of the House, Mr. Mason said that Admiral Godfrey's broadcast conveyed a wrong impression. When Admiral Godfrey referred to the "destruction of the Navy" he did not mean physical destruction; he meant the collapse of its prestige and of its achievements.

TREATMENT AFTER SURRENDER

Regarding the treatment of ratings after they had surrendered, Mr. Mason said that they would receive full food and rations as soon as they resumed duty.

The ratings surrendered from H.M.I.S. "Hindustan" were under arrest.

Mr. Mason, in reply to another question said that a considerable measure of decentralisation was necessary in dealing with this question and in Bombay Major General Lokhart was in charge of the land, air and sea forces.

There would certainly be no victimisation and Government's policy had been communicated to Major-General Lockhart but Government were not prepared to tie the hands of the man on the spot by passing specific instructions in particular cases.

Mr. Mason replying to an interruption said that he had reason to believe that there was any truth in an agency report (not supplied by the A.P.I.) that 200 ratings had been killed in the fighting in Castle Barracks, Bombay. He believed that there were fewer casualties in Bombay among the ratings than the figures given for Karachi.

Dealing with further questions on the subject, Mr. Mason said he could not be responsible for inaccuracies in agency reports.

FOOD AND INSURRECTION

Answering another supplementary, Mr. Mason said that it would have been "fantastic and quixotic to a degree which would surprise even this House" if ratings had been supplied with food while they were in a ship in armed insurrection.

With a number of members of the House standing up to catch his eye, the President intervened to say that it would perhaps save a large number of supplementaries if Mr. Mason made a full statement at that stage, Mr. Mason agreed to the suggestion.

The War Secretary continued that indiscipline in armed forces was very dangerous. It was not like a trade dispute where pressure was brought to bear fairly gradually and there was time for discussion. There was a stage in Bombay when the whole city was threatened when the ratings hoisted steam. He was glad they were wise enough to avoid that criminal act.

"I must acknowledge the fact", Mr. Mason said, "that this danger of indiscipline which threatens us and which involved that navy began, I am sorry, with the indiscipline in R. A. F., then to the R. I. A. F. and it has led to all this".

TWO INQUIRIES

In regard to Government's policy the War Secretary said the matter required very careful consideration and Government must undoubtedly consult the wishes of the people and the question would come up before the Defence Consultative Committee. That would be the first step which Government would take. Government also need to inquire into the whole question. There were two kinds of enquiries, one purely of a service nature and the other a very full and impartial consideration of the whole question as to how the trouble arose, the reason for the indiscipline and other matters and in such an enquiry members of the Legislature should be associated.

NO ASSURANCE ABOUT PUNISHMENT

With regard to victimisation he could give no assurance that punishment would not take place. But there would be no mass punishment or victimisation. The majority of the ratings were very young and some one must have misled them and it was essential that if that person could be found and if charges could be brought hime, then Government should reserve for themselves the right to punish such people with the object of preventing further indiscipline and secondly to make the position clear for the future.

At the same time Government would take into account the present "electric atmosphere" in the country and as far as the military authorities were concerned they would take greatest care to avoid anything which might lead to a general deterioration of the feeling.

The War Secretary asked the House carefully to consider the adjournment which implied censure of Government. That meant that those who took part in the indiscipline would feel that they might have been right in the course they took.

ASAF ALI'S PLAIN SPEAKING

Moving his adjournment motion, Mr. Asaf Ali said: "During the war the ratings had been hearing about freedom and national self-respect and their conduct in the war has been praised by Mr. Attlee. But they found Commanding Officer King calling them names which I am ashamed to repeat (hear, hear). Even others who may not have been so well-trained for fighting may have retaliated for such treatment with perhaps greater violence than that used b ythese boys."

LEGITIMATE GRIEVANCES

The grievances of the ratings, apart from politics, would be regarded as legitimate anywhere, said Mr. Asaf Ali. "I need not say anything further for the simple reason that I am as fully conscious of the gravity of the situation as anybody else. I am as conscious as anybody else that the Army is to be kept out of party politics. I do not want a single man in the Army who is not patriotic, but I also want them to be impartially patriotic. The Army must serve their people and fight for their country and so long as they are animated with this feeling, I respect and honour them. Th entire country will back them to the last man if they are fighting for the National self-respect of the country (hear, hear).

"If in their excitement the ratings have gone beyond proper limit," said Mr. Asaf Ali, "the whole matter should be considered calmly and quietly in a place where we can exchange views with the War Department. and where we can advise the Department.

Meanwhile, no steps should be taken which may make the bad situation worse.

To blame these boys alone for the situation would be rather out of proportion. The strikes were first started by the American Army and followed by the R.A.F. The R.A.F gave the cue to the R.I.A.F. and the R.I.N. followed suit.

SELF RESTRAINT

Concluding Mr. Asaf Ali said that although it was extremely difficult under the circumstances, he wished to exercise the greatest restraint; he did not wish to say any word which might in any way contribute to the deterioration of the situation. This self-imposed restraint was due to the fact that— as Sardar Patel had said in another place—India's ship was nearing the shore and had to be piloted as carefully and cautiously as possible out of the shoals which lay ahead.

OPIUM-EATERS

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqui (Muslim League) said that the basis of the trouble was racial discrimination. The authorities had not realised the spirit of the age. Immediately after the war, Officers of the services went back into the spirit of the pre-war days when it was considered a legitimate privilege to treat the Indian section of the forces unkindly and disrespectfully. If the War Department was not aware of the grievances of the ratings, the men in charge of it, especially the Naval section, belonged to the company of opium-eaters (hear, hear). The Officer who used ungentlemanly language against the ratings should have been kicked out of the Navy (hear hear).

Those boys, said Mr. Siddiqui, "did not go mad overnight when they committed acts to which exception is taken. Whether in Bombay or Karachi, these boys have behaved as any group of young folk would have done. My boys had a larger justification to do what they did than the men of the American or British forces."

"Your age," said the speaker, "is finished and a new age has dawned. Unless you go with the spirit of the age, there will be trouble and misery for my own countrymen as well as for those who would like to crush them." (cheers).

NO CLAIM TO ALLEGIANCE

Sardar Mangal Singh (Akali Party) supporting the motion, said that the action of the ratings was a protest against continued racial discrimination. "A Government, which maintains such discrimination has no claim on our allegiance and we have the right to revolt against it. When the inquiry is made into the strikes of the rebel ratings, the whole question should be re-examined so that such troubles will not recur."

He asked the War Secretary to give an assurance that no punishment would be given even to individual ratings till the Defence Consul-

Continued on Page 15

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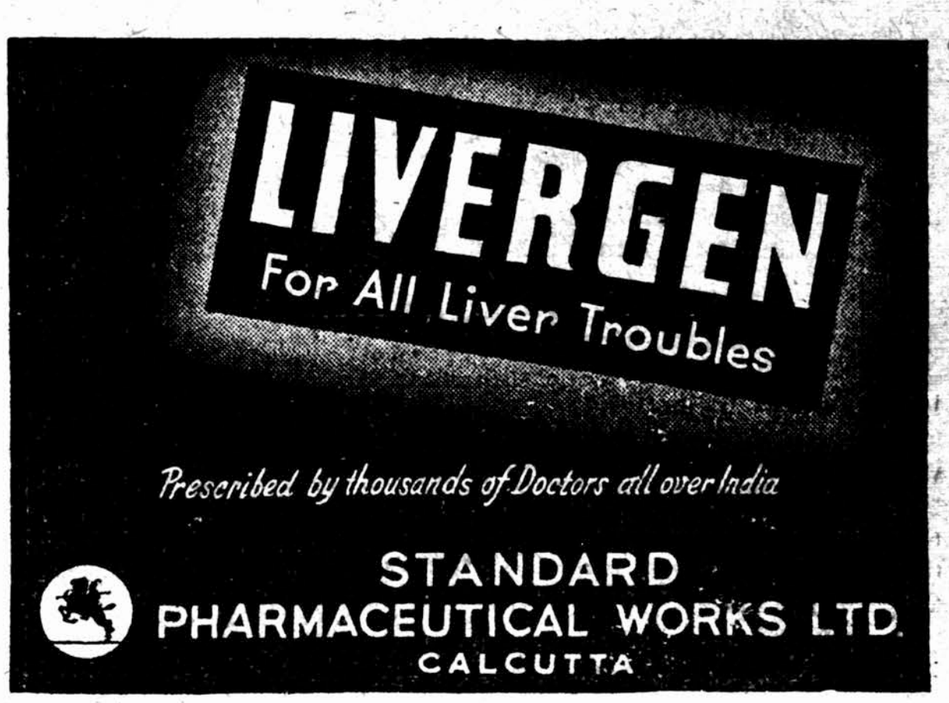

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NEW DELHI LETTER

FURORE OVER W. A. C. (I.) DISBANDMENT

New Delhi (By Mail)

WAC(I)s are in the news again. There were two adjournment motions in the Central Assembly last week—one by the Anglo-Indian leader, Mr. Anthony and the other by the Andhra Congress leader, Anantasayanam Iyengar—to discuss the WAC(I)s affairs. There have been open letters from WAC(I)s in the Press.

Let me discuss their grievances. Their first grievance is that the WAC(I) organisation is being disbanded. It is claimed that the winding up of the WAC(I) organisation means simply that "all the thousands of Indian women, are to be let loose in the unemployment market, Government having disowned all responsibility of peacetime reconversion of the Corps." The Government, it is stated, may be persuaded to maintain the wartime-strength of the armed forces, provided India was prepared to foot the bill,. If thousands of women will be thrown on the unemployment market, so will be lakhs of men from Defence Services. Or, is it suggested that WAC(I)s alone should be maintained, irrespective of their cost or requirements?

STANDARDS—MATERIAL & MORAL

It is further claimed that the Government had given an assurance to maintain the Corps. Mr. P. Mason, War Department spokesman in the Central Assembly, denied that the Government had given any such undertaking. As a matter of fact, the questionnaire issued by the Army Reorganisation Committee enquired whether even a nucleus of the WAC(I) organisation should be maintained in postwar India. The Army Reorganisation Committee has lately made its report and it is presumed that the Government's decision to disband the Corps follows the recommendation of the Committee.

Let me deal with another aspect of the question. The hundred WAC (I)s who have addressed an open letter in the Press, allege that the WAC(I) organisation has made "absolute irreparable mess of lives, homes, character, discipline and morals of so many of us in the WAC (I)". The allegation may be correct. People, who live in New Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay have seen something of the life, the WAC(I)s have been leading for the last three years. One question is why this allegation was not made earlier, say before the decision to disband the Corps was announced. For the last three years, these girls and women in the WAC(I) have led a standard of living which everyone knew they could not maintain in peacetime.

THE SELECT SERVICE

They were given salaries, which their sisters in other departments of the Government of India or in the nursing profession could never dream of getting even during the war. They had free conveyance, free uniforms, free medical treatment, free board, and lodging, servants allowance, ex-India allowance, field allowance and Japanese camp allowance. As for their qualifications some of them have not passed even the Junior Cambridge Examination. The pay of WAC(I) officers ranged from Rupees hundred and fifty to nine-hundred and eighty a month and the lowest scale of pay of auxiliaries amounted to Rupees ninety-five. Their sisters even in the General Headquarters started with Rupees sixty a month.

There is much talk of racial discrimination. Firstly, is the Indian Army without racial discrimination? The WAC(I)s are educated girls. Did they not know that the question of Indianising the Army has been the subject of keen controversy in India.

While on this subject, I may add that Mr. P. Mason replying to a question of Dewan Chamanlal in the Central Assembly said: "No personnel of the WAC(I) have been or will be replaced by WRNS, WAAF or ATS. The WRNS and WAAF have worked with the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, only in South-east Asia Command, and have never been under the control of the Government of India. As previously explained, the ATS as a Service began in 1938 while the WAC(I) was not formed until 1942, and therefore it was of assistance to the WAC(I) to bring out a small number of ATS to help in training and in filling certain specialist appointments. The total number of ATS at present in India is equal to about one per cent of the whole WAC(I)."

THE FINAL QUESTION

Then again, it is alleged, that young women from Indian homes were exposed to wartime risks and temptation. The pertinent question is why did these girls enlist, after they had seen the WAC(I)s with strange men in uniforms dancing in restaurants and dance halls? The Corps was not raised in a day. It was recruited women by women and girl by girl. A woman, who thought of her morals should have known the risks she was likely to run, if she joined the WAC(I). It is not generally known that the case was recently made out for in increase an the pay of WAC(I)s an the ground that their present scale of pay was not conducive to their moral. They took the increase in their salary and raised no protest against the implications involved in it.

The Government of India deserve condemnation for creating the Corps. All the same a good deal of explanation is needed from WAC(I)s themselves.

FOUR FREEDOMS OF DELHI

Delhi has four freedoms. There is one freedom for Government officials, second freedom for PWD Contractors, third freedom for the members of the Central Legislature and the fourth freedom is for the rest. Some Delhi Press men claim a fifth freedom for themselves, freedom to Brag. Freedom for the officials is absolute and without qualifications. Every man, woman and child lives for them and works to maintain them. In return they sometime indicate the movements of locusts and forecast famine in this country.

The freedom for P. W. D. Contractors generally consists in their dancing in "dahris" (beard) with "saris". They have built New Delhi and New Delhi has made them.

The freedom for the members of the Central Legislature, inter alia, consists in drawing petrol coupons irrespective of whether they possess a motor car or not. One of them demanded an English bath in his quarter and the other a refrigerator. Last year, the Commerce Member froze all the 51 style Parker pens in Delhi and made them available to the members of the Central Legislature at controlled rates minus ten per cent.

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(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

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KAMALA WORKS, (B.C.)
PANCHPOTA, BENGAL.

Rioting And Arson In Bombay North

Military Resort To Repeated Firing

More Reinforcements Of Br. Troops Called Out

1,000 Bad Characters Rounded Up

OVER 250 KILLED: 1,300 INJURED

BOMBAY, SATURDAY.

DESPITE FRANTIC EFFORTS BY THE BOMBAY CITY POLICE AND THE BRITISH TROOPS CALLED OUT TO REINFORCE THEM THE SITUATION IN THE CITY DETERIORATED ON SATURDAY, AND MOB RULE SPREAD TO THE HITHERTO UNAFFECTED LOCALITIES. THE NORTH OF THE CITY WAS THE MAIN CENTRE OF DISTURBANCES. A RAID ON A PETROL DEPOT AT SHIVAJI PARK, DADAR, CONDUCTED BY HOOLIGANS IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING WAS THE SIGNAL FOR A REGULAR FLARE UP WHICH SPREAD TO OTHER LOCALITIES DURING THE LATER PART OF THE DAY. AT SHIVAJI PARK, TWO TANKS, LAL BAUG, RIPON ROAD AND SEVERAL OTHER PLACES THE POLICE CONSTANTLY CAME INTO CLASHES WITH FRENZIED CROWDS. AND THE MILITARY HAD TO RESORT TO FREQUENT FIRING.

250 KILLED: OVER 1,300 INJURED

SINCE FRIDAY MORNING TO THE HOUR OF WRITING OVER 250 PERSONS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN DEAD AND MORE THAN 1,300 INJURED. MOST OF THE FATAL AND SERIOUS CASES BEING CAUSED BY THE BULLETS.

THERE WAS, HOWEVER, NO DISTURBANCE IN FORT, AND NO INCIDENT WAS REPORTED FROM THAT AREA DURING THE DAY.

BARRICADERS TO BE SHOT AT SIGHT

BOMBAY, SATURDAY, (A.P.I.): THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY HAS ISSUED A WARNING TO THE PUBLIC THAT ANYONE FOUND BUILDING BARRICADES ON THE ROADS IS LIABLE TO BE SHOT AT SIGHT.

SITUATION IN CITY DETERIORATES

The situation in the city had deteriorated beyond expectation, to-day, though in the Fort area and other localities in the South which were affected yesterday there was considerable improvement.

Cases of arson and looting on a large scale were reported to-day from areas in the North where the trouble had spread.

The tension had shifted to such distant districts as Shivaji Park, Dadar, and Dharavi where the police and the military resorted to repeated firing.

Mahim and Dadar (B. B. & C. I. Rly.) Stations were mobbed by excited crowds in the afternoon and attempts were made to set them on fire. Panic spread like wild fire after this, and railway traffic was disorganised for a considerable time. As the day wore off traffic was resumed as the excitment abated.

PITCHED BATTLES

At many centres in these localities there were pitched battles between the police and violent mobs who rained stones on them.

Reinforcements, both of military and the police, had to be requisitioned as the situation went out of hand: and on their arrival severe machine-gun fire was opened. This had a salutary effect but claimed a heavy toll of casualties, and a large number of dead on the spot.

The incendiarism at the two railway stations was brought under control by the timely arrival of the Fire Brigade.

The mobs also indulged in stone-throwing at trains at the two B. B. & C. I. Rly. stations and stopped the traffic for nearly two hours. Two wagons were also set fire an gutted.

IRREGULAR TRAIN SERVICES

During the crescendo of the trouble trains proceeded from Churchgate only upto Mahaluxmi.

Late in the afternoon, however, through traffic was resumed; but the services were irregular.

Though all the mills were closed there was acute tension in the mill areas. Looting, arson on a large scale, stone-throwing at passing vehicles and street-side bonfires were a regular feature of these localitties throughout the day.

The Kohinoor Mill No. 3 was set on fire. The Century Mill was attacked by large mobs, and an attempt was made to set it on fire. As a result of this there was repeated firing in these areas.

STONE-THROWING IN KALBADEVI & GIRGAON

In Kalbadevi and Girgaon where traffic was paralysed large crowds gathered and indulged in stone-throwing. They barricaded the roads on a larger scale today to make it impossible for military trucks patrolling the areas pass that way.

At Mugbhat Lane and Kandewadi the police were stoned again and again, and throughout the day there was a continued game of hide-and-seek between the police and the violent mobs. In these areas also the military opened fire on several occasions.

FIRING AT KAMATIPURA & RIPON ROAD

In Kamatipura, Ripon Road and round about, the military resorted to severe firing when the situation assumed menacing proportions and numerous clashes between the crowds and the police occurred.

Large mobs besieged the police quarters at Duncan Road and had to be dispersed by machine-gun fire.

LOOTER CAUGHT RED-HANDED

Mob rule in all this areas had made life unsafe. One man who was making away with a booty of jewels and Rs. 3,000 in cash was caught red-handed.

Attempts were made to break open a safe in the branch office of a bank at Sandhurst Road, but to no avail, as the police came on the scene and arrested the hooligans.

'BAD CHARACTERS' ARRESTED

The authorities have started a general round-up of all bad characters in the city. By the afternoon nearly 1,000 of them were in custody.

TWO MORE REGIMENTS CALLED OUT

Two more regiments were called out today to quell the trouble when it started spreading towards the afternoon.

In the evening the Two Tanks area was thrown into consternation and alarm when a huge crowd clashed with the police and attempted to stone the military. As a result of firing here there were several wounded, and a few persons were killed.

At the same time Khetwadi in Girgaon and Kamatipura flared up again, and the military resorted to severe firing.

National Flag Removed

While Dr. Kailash's car with the National Flag on the bonnet was passing by Kamal Talkies, Null Bazar, a number of British soldiers stopped it and asked the driver to remove the flag. On the driver remonstrating the flag was removed by the soldiers.

LOOTING AND ARSON IN EVENING

Attempts To Fire Ry. Stations Foiled

In between 6 and 7-30 p.m. the Military opened fire at Bhendi Bazar, Null Bazar, Lady Jamshedji Road, Ranade Road, Gokhale Road and Tulsi Pipe Road to desperse the violent mobs.

A petrol pump was burnt at Shiwaji Park and three military lorries were set ablaze near Plaza Cinema, Dadar.

At the same time Matunga, Mahim and Malad Stations of the B. B. & C. I. Railway were attacked by mobs and unsuccessful attempts were made to set fire to these stations.

Several shops at Dadar (B. B. C. I.) were broken open and looted in the evening.

A large crowd attacked a Municipal building opposite the Northbrook Garden, this morning; but the crowd disappeared when a military lorry arrived and fired six rounds.

The G Ward rationing office as well as the Hira Baugh Rationing office was looted, furniture and records from these offices were brought out and set on fire.

The Chowpatty post office was also broken open, and its contents were brought out and burnt.

A restaurant at Bellasis Road was looted. A 14-year old boy was killed by a bullet while he was peeping from the window of his residence at Bhandari Street.

Earlier in the day, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, accompanied by Dr. M. D. D. Gilder, Nagindas T. Master, S. K. Patil and other Congress leaders, visited all the city hospitals where the injured people are detained. They also saw the dead bodies in the morgue.

Congress and Muslim League volunteers in motor lorries fitted with loud-speakers moved in the disturbed areas, exhorting the people to remain peaceful and not to congregate on roads and in lanes.

The Hindustan Scouts Association has opened a first-aid centre at Girgaum, and they are helping the Ambulance in removing the injured persons.

At Kamatipura also a public relief centre is opened.

FIRING AT KHETWADI & KAMATIPURA

A little before the Curfew hours in the evening, Khetwadi and Kamatipura were the storm centres and at both places military opened fire. Many persons were injured and about 10 persons dead.

UNIDENTIFIED BODIES: CALL TO RELATIVES

BOMBAY, Saturday (A.P.I.): Mr. S. K. Patil, Secretary of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, says that a number of unidentified bodies arestill lying in hospitals and persons whose relations or friends are missing should call at the following three hospitals and see if they can identify any of the bodwies:—There are 15 bodies at the K. E.M. Hospital, ten in the J. J. Hospital and eight at the G. T. Hospital.

Mahatma's Call To People And Govt.

Let Not India Of Congress Now Belie Her Word In Action

POONA, Feb. 23, (A.P.I.): Mahatma Gandhi has appealed in a statement today to stop "the thoughtless orgy of violence" that is now going on in India. The mutiny in the navy and what is following is not, he says in any sense of the term non-violent action.

"Let it not be said", he adds, "that India of the Congress spoke to the world of winning Swaraj through non-violent action and belied her word in action, and that too at the critical period of her life."

Mahatma Gandhi in his statement says:

"I have followed the events now happening in India with painful interest. This mutiny in the navy, and what is following is not, in any sense of the term, non-violent action. Inasmuch as a single person is compelled to shout "Jai Hind" or any popular slogan, nail is driven into the coffin of Swaraj in terms of the dumb millions of India. Destruction of churches and the like is not the way to Swaraj as defined by the Congress. Looting and burning of tramcars and other property, insulting and injuring Europeans, is not non-violence of the Congress type, much less mine, if and in so far as it may be different from the Congress. Let the known and unknown leaders of this thoughtless orgy of violence know what they are doing and then follow their bent.

Let it not be said that India of the Congress spoke to the world of winning Swaraj through non-violent action and belied her word in action, and that too at the critical period in her life. I have deliberately used the adjective "thoughtless." For, there is such a thing as thoughtful violent action. What I see happening now is not thoughtful. If the Indian members of the Navy know and appreciate non-violence, the way of non-violent resistance can be dignified, manly and wholly effective, if it is corporate. For the individual, it always is. Why should they continue to serve, if service is humiliating for them or India? Action like this, I have called non-violent non-cooperation. As it is, they are setting a bad and unbecoming example for India.

A combination between the Hindus and Muslims and others for the purpose of violent action is unholy and will lead to and probably is a preparation for mutual violence—bad for India and the world.

The rulers have declared their intention to 'quit' in favour of Indian rule. Let the action be not delayed by a moment, because of the exhibition of distressful unrest which has been lying hidden in the breast. Their might is unquestioned. Its use beyond the bare requirement will be unworthy and even wicked, if it is made to suppress the people or a portion of them. The latter have been far too long under the foreign heel.

AFTER SURRENDER

Negligible Damage To Interior Of Castle Barracks Noticed

BOMBAY, Saturday (A.P.I.): An Associated Press of India correspondent who visited Castle Barracks, this afternoon, found R.I.N. Ratings parading before officers while others went round inside the barracks clearing up litter and putting various offices in order.

The 20-foot thick walls of the barracks which were formally part of a Castle and loop-holed ramparts showed the fortress-like strength of the position which the ratings had taken during Thursday's "battle" with British troops. Damage done to the interior of the barracks was negligible and throughout their "occupation the ratings left important naval records untouched.

British troops are still quartered in the Town Hall and the compound

(Continued on page 16)

Ratings In Bombay Surrender Unconditionally

Restore All R.I.N. Ships Under Their Control To Authorities

NEW DELHI, FEB. 23 (A.P.I.): It is officially stated that the ratings in Bombay have surrendered unconditionally. The surrender has been accepted.

ALL THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY SHIPS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE RATINGS ON STRIKE SURRENDERED UNCONDITIONALLY THIS MORNING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADVICE TENDERED TO THEM BY SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL.

A signal from the Strike Committee that the ships are ready to surrender was received at Naval Headquarters at Bombay at 6-13 a.m. today after which the ships surrendered one by one in accordance with the terms laid down by the Flag Officer Commanding. The Royal Indian Navy.

The Indian Naval ratings who had barricaded themselves inside Castle Barracks also surrendered simultaneously.

The naval ratings strike has been called off.

ALL QUIET IN CASTLE BARRACKS

Latest information indicates that all is quiet in the Castle Barracks in H.M.I.S "Talwar" and other naval establishments and ships. The ratings have started surrendering according to the advice given by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

In accordance with the terms of surrender, officers are boarding s. s. "Jamna". s. s. "Nerbada". s. s. "Kanwar". s. s. "Lilavati" and other ships numbering about 20 which were in the hands of the ratings the "Castle Barracks" have completely surrendered.

The naval authorities have already sent a supply of water to the ratings and are making arrangements for the supply of food.

Facilities have been given for the funeral of the body of Sub-Lt. Krishnan, who died as a result of exchange of shots on Thursday between the ratings and British troops in the Castle Barracks area

R. I. N. Officer Cowell

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23. (A. P. I.): The R. I. N. Officer whose death as a result of the disturbances in Bombay on February 22, was announced in a Press Communique issued that day by joint advance H. Q., Southern Command, is Sub-Lt. P. G. Cowell, R. I. N. V. R. says a communique.

His next of kins have been informed.

cer Suleman, that he had given the matter very serious consideration and he would take it up soon after his return to Delhi and get in touch with the Viceroy.

A deputation consisting of three members of the R.I.N. A. Ratings Strike Committee Calcutta will wait upon Mr. Jinnah tomorrow.

All Quiet At Vizag Port

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): The Naval Officer in Command, Vizagapatam, announces that the position at the port is completely under control, says a 'communique.'

No violence has occurred. Military guards have been placed on ships and establishments and over arms and ammunition.

All ships and establishments are carrying out daily routine.

Soviet Ambassador To Persia

LONDON, Feb. 23 (Reuter): Moscow radio reported today that M. Sadchikov, Soviet Ambassador to Yugoslavia, has been appointed Soviet Ambassador to Persia.

Stalin Receives Mongolian Premier

LONDON, Feb. 23 (Reuter): Moscow radio said today that Generalissimo Stalin has received in audience Marshal Choi Bal San, Prime Minister of the Mongolian Peoples Republic.

FALSE DISTRESS SIGNALS

Ruse Of R. I. N. Men Before Striking

COLOMBO, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): False distress signals are believed to have been put out by men of the Royal Indian Navy, before they went on strike, and sent to British naval and merchant ships east of Ceylon in the port of Trincomalee rushing to "rescue." The S.O.S. gave the position of distressed ships as 'Near Akyab' (Burma), and in other points in the Bay of Bengal. The search went on for three days before it was called off.

POLICE OPEN FIRE AT KARACHI

Tear Gas Used To Disperse Crowd: Complete Hartal Observed

KARACHI, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): The police opened fire on a crowd near Idghah maidan that advanced on the police three times at about 2-30 p. m. it is officially stated. Two rounds were fired each time. Two more shots fired on a crowd which attacked a police officer on a gharry.

An authoritative version of today's incidents so far was given by an official spokesman at a Press conference in Sind Secretariat. He said that the District Magistrate has issued orders under Section 144 Cr. P. C. banning processions and public meetings since 6 a. m. today for an indefinite period on the ground that provocative speeches are likely to be made in regard to R.I.N. mutiny leading to the possibility of disturbances of public peace. Three Communist leaders were arrested this morning who were addressing a meeting calling upon the public to observe hartal. Later six school boys and a milk vendor were arrested. Three of them were arrested, according to the spokesman, for "attempting to take possession of the municipal office." Four others were arrested for stoning the police.

At 11/35 a. m. police used tear gas to disperse a crowd near Idgah maidan where a public meeting was being organised. At 12/45 p. m. there was a mild lathi charge and police had also to use tear gas. The situation however deteriorated a little later. The police under the orders of the District Magistrate opened fire only after the crowd advanced on the police and stoned six constables. Only six rounds were fired two at a time The casualities were two slightly injured. Two more shots were fired at a crowd later which was attacking a police officer on a gharry.

The crowd has not yet dispersed and police force has been reinforced there.

COMPLETE HARTAL

Complete hartal has been observed in Karachi. With sec. 144 promulgated, armed military and civil police has been posted at various points.

Hidayatullah's Appeal

KARACHI Feb. 23, (A. P. I.): The premier, Sir Ghulam Hussein Hidayatullah, has appealed to Indian naval ratings to resume work immediately. He told the Associated Press of India: "I do feel confident the authorities will sympathetically consider their grievances. I shall personally use my influence to see that the reasonable demands of the ratings are conceded to."

Speaking of one of their demands regarding speedy demobilisation Sir Ghulam Hussein said that unless the authorities could make suitable provisions for civil employment to suit their status, he was against their demobilisation.

Sind Govt.'s Communique

The Government of Sind in a communique issued this morning explained its position regarding the military opperations against the mutineers of the Royal Indian Navy in Karachi harbour. "The suppression of mutiny in naval establishments" says the communique "is the responsibility of the naval and military authorities. It adds "these establishments in protected areas are under military control. It is, however, the duty of the Sind Government to guard against disorder in Karachi city.

Military Called Out To Stand By

The British paratroops were called out to stand by at 6-45 p.m. when the situation at Idgah Maidan, the trouble centre, considerably worsened. The police had to open fire two more rounds. Mild lathi charges and tear gas attacks were tried with no success when the military was called out to stand by.

GOVERNOR CANCELS TOUR

KARACHI, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): The District Magistrate held conference with high police officials today for taking suitable security measures in the city.

The Sind Governor who was to have left for Hyderabad tomorrow morning has cancelled his departure.

With the military standing by, the situation has greatly eased, though large crowds are seen near Idgah Maidan.

Sergeant Framer who was passing along Idgah maidan was badly stoned by the mob, with the result he had to be removed to hospital.

Calcutta Still Uneasy

Crowds Hold Up E. I. R. Trains On Track

CALCUTTA, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): The Calcutta situation is uneasy this morning. The tram service which ran with breaks and interruptions yesterday has not resumed today. Buses are plying but in south Calcutta very few buses are seen.

A few incidents of small knots of demonstrators holding up vehicles and asking passengers to walk have been reported

No East Indian Railway trains have come into Howrah Terminus since six this morning owing to crowds holding them up on the track in the Serampore and Bally areas. This has also affected the departure of trains from Howrah.

SITUATION IMPROVES

Later the situation on the E. I. Railway improved and trains have been coming to Howrah Station. It is understood that the crowds on the track have been persuaded to disperse.

Train service from Sealdah, on the Bengal Assam Railway has been interrupted "by some of the staff not coming for work" according to an official of the Railway.

It is now learnt that due to the strike resorted to by the station staff at Sealdah Terminus of B. A. Railway, no train arrived at or started from any of the three stations at Sealdah, either on the local or main lines, after eight hours (. S. T.) this morning.

FACTORY WORKERS ON SYM. PATHETIC STRIKE

More than 50,000 workers belonging to over 30 workshops and factories in Calcutta and suburbs are on sympathetic strike to-day, according to an announcement made at a labour rally at Wellington Square this afternoon. The announcement added that reports had been received about the extension of the strike to factories and workshops in areas beyond Naihati on the E. I railway thus involving another 50,000 men roughly

The rally, which was presided over by Prof. K P. Chaterjee of the Calcutta University, was largely attended by the strikers and others who came in processions shouting Communist slogans and carrying Tri-Colour, Muslim League and Communist Flags.

The gathering adopted a resolution expressing indignation at the firings in Bombay and Karachi for the past two days. It warned the Government. That if the "rightful demands" of these men were not fulfilled within a reasonable time and if the "rebels" were victimised, the unrest might spread among the working class all over India. It also made an appeal to the Congress and League leaders to take up the cause of these men and see that their grievances were redressd immediately

STUDENTS' RALLY.

The students of Calcutta who abstained from their classes also held a rally at Wellington Square shortly after midday to exoress their sympathy with the R. I. N. ratings, and condemned the recent firings in Bombay and Karachi.

A resolution exhorting the people to support the demands of the R. I. N. ratings and urging the authorities not to victimise these men, wrongly termed as "rebels" was passed at the rally

FIRE IN RAILWAY YARD

A fire broke out this afternoon in the Bengal Assam Railway yard at Ballygunge. Two coaches and a wagon containing a consignment of boots and shoes caught fire. The flames were extinguished by four engines of the Calcutta fire brigade in about half an hour

The damage as well as the cause of the fire are unknown.

CALCUTTA STRIKERS NOT TO RESUME.

CALCUTTA, Feb 23. (A. P. I.): The R. I. N. strikers were asked to-day by the Commodore of the Bay of Bengal to resume work in the light of the situation in Bombay and Karachi but it is learnt that they declined to do so. They stated that they were determined to carry on the strike till their demands were met. They have also asked the Central Strike Committee at Bombay to send for representatives from the different areas and consult them before calling off the strike.

Jinnah's Assurance To R. I. N. Officer

CALCUTTA. Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): On behalf of the R.I.N. Ratings Strike Committee, Calcutta petty officer Mahomed Suleman of the Royal Indian Navy had an interview with Mr M. A. Jinnah, this evening.

Mahomed Suleman placed before Mr. Jinnah the grievances and demands of the R.I.N. ratings. He expressed satisfaction at the offer made by Mr. Jinnah to the R.I.N. ratings that he would take up the matter some reasonable settlement was arwith the authorities concerned till rived at.

Mr. Jinnah assured Petty Offi-

CEREALS FOR INDIA

Condition For Success Of Cabinet Mission

LONDON, Feb. 23. (A.P.A.): If India is not granted supplies of cereals before the end of May, the Three-Man Mission of Cabinet members to India may fail, members of the India Food Delegation predicted yesterday.

Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, Head of the Delegation, told Prime Minister Clement Attlee, "we are not asking for luxuries. We are merely asking for a handful of cereals so that millions might keep body and soul together".

A. D. Gorwala, Bombay Food Commissioner, asserted the Combined Food Board in Washington had enough food and that since India had helped Britain during the war, Britain should help India by bringing pressure to bear in the International Food Board.

FOOD SITUATION

VICEROY APPRECIATES LEAGUE'S OFFER

CALCUTTA, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): It is learnt that the Viceroy has replied to Mr. Jinnah's recent communication to him on the food situation. His Excellency has appreciated the Muslim League's offer of support in handling the crisis, and has indicated some steps of such effective co-operation.

STOP PRESS

LEAGUERS PLUMP FOR MAJLIS

MADRAS, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): A Calicut message says that 80 persons in Valiyora village in Ernad Taluk resigned from the Muslim League and 25 of them joined the Muslim Majlis.

POLICE GUARD FOR GUJARAT MAIL

AHMEDABAD, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): The Gujarat Mail left tonight for Bombay at 10-35 P. M. guarded by police. Usually it leaves at 9-20 P. M.

GUARD FOR PASSENGER TRAIN

AHMEDABAD Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): A passenger train which generally leaves for Bombay at 12-30 p. m. left today at 4-15 p. m. with a police guard

BRITISH TROOPS QUIT PERSIA

TEHERAN, Feb. 23. (Reuter): One week from today the last of British troops will leave the Persian soil. New evacuation has been proceeding methodically from months past with Persian troops taking over each post as the British withdraw.

FINAL PARTY POSITION IN PUNJAB

LAHORE, Feb. 23.

The following is the final party position in the Punjab Assembly

MUSLIM LEAGUE	75
CONGRESS:	51
PANTHIC AKALI SIKHS:	22
UNIONIST	20
INDEPENDENTS:	7
Total	175

'A Kashmiri Girl'
By Master Abhay Khatau.

THE CHILD ART SOCIETY

Exhibition Of Abhay Khatau's Paintings

The Child Art Society, which held its first Child Art Exhibition in 1942, brought before the public a rich variety of drawings and paintings by children. It justified the claim fully that Child Art is a window through which we can look into the growing and ever active mind of the child, and his rich phantasy and inexhaustible imagination at work.

The Society has now decided to organise an exhibition of one of the young artists, whose paintings were exhibited during 1942 exhibition. Those pictures at that time were considered as masterpieces of Child Art. The remarkable progress done by the young artist, Master Abhay Khatau, who is only 18, can be seen in these pictures which are presented by the Organisers with a special view. One can see the earlier works from the year 1936, and from the psychological point of view one can see the variety of rich experiences in the realm of colour, conception, forms subjects, and art techniques in his expression.

This Exhibition will be opened on 25th February 1946 at the Cama Oriental Institute Hall, by the Mayor of Bombay, which will remain open to the Public uptill 2nd of March 1946, daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Magh Vad 8, 2002.
Muslim: Rabi Avval 21, 1365.
Parsi: Shehrever 24, 1315.
Sunrise: 7.2 a.m. Sunset 6-43 p.m.
Hightide 04-00, 17.59.
Lowtide 10.58, 23-06.

Today's Engagements

TELEGRAPH NOTIFICATION: Owing to disturbances in different parts of city, it is regretted that the telegram delivery service has been partially disorganised. The public are advised to call for their telegrams at the Central Telegraph Office, Bombay.

Sydenham College Hostel Annual Function

Owing to the troubled conditions in the city the Sydenham College Hostel function which was to be celebrated on Sunday has been cancelled.

TO-DAY ON RADIO

SUNDAY, Feb. 24.
BOMBAY—1.

244 m. (1,231 kc/s)—8.0 a.m. News (H) 8.15 News (E) 8.30 P. Nageshkar 8-50 News (M) 9.10 G. M. Durrani 9.30 Shalini Narvekar 10-0 Ghulam Ali Khan 11.0 Selected Song 11.30 Sangeet Rangabhoomi 12-0 Gulam Ali Khan.

12.45 p.m. News (M) 12.50 News (G) 12.55 News (H) 1-0 Vinayakrao Patwardhan 1.30 News (E) 1.40 Music 4-20 Children's Programme 5.0 P. Mangeshkar 5.15 Folk-Songs (G) 5.45 Violin Duet 5.55 Locals 6-0 Kavita Vachan 6.15 Raag and Rasa 6-30 News (E) 6.40 News (H) 6.45 S. B. Mane 7.0 "Maimuna" 7.30 Shalini Narvekar 8.0 Air Orchestra 8.15 News (M) 8.30 News (G) 8.45 "Omar Khayyam" 9.0 News (H) 9-15 News (E) 9.30 B. B. C. News Relay 9-40 Programme Parade 9.45 Anniversaries of the Month 10-0 Symphonic Hour.

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE CATHEDRAL and JOHN CONNON SCHOOLS will be closed on MONDAY, February the 25th.

KERALA ASTROLOGY

A year's readings (with monthly details) Rs. 5; One Dasa (with Bhuktis) Rs. 10; Two Dasas Rs. 16; Three Dasas Rs. 21; Ans. to 5 Qns Rs. 3-8-0.

M. G. K. MENON, M.A., L.T., Kazhani, Alatur, S. MALABAR.

Ask for particulars of a Lucky Prize Scheme.

NO VICTIMISATION OR VINDICTIVE ACTION

Commander-in-Chief's Assurance To Congress President

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Congress President, called on the C-in-C Claude Auchinleck this morning and it is understood discussed the situation arising out of the R. I. N. strike. Maulana Azad left later for Peshawar by air today.

NEED FOR PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, told an A. P. I. correspondent later that he had the C.-in-C.'s authority to assure all the persons concerned that there would be no victimisation or vindictive action taken in connection with the R. I. N. strike and that all legitimate grievances would be sympathetically examined and redressed.

But the Maulana added that a calm and peaceful atmosphere was essential for the immediate purpose as well as in the larger interests of the country. He earnestly hoped that all parties concerned would keep this in view.

The Maulana said that he was very glad that Sardar Patel's advice had been accepted by the strikers.

After his interview with the C.-in-C. the Congress President left by a specially chartered plane at 11 for Peshawar to attend the Congress Party meeting tomorrow. The Maulana has been in telephonic contact with Sardar Patel in Bombay and was informed by the Sardar that the Central Strike Committee's representatives had sought and accepted Sardar Patel's advice to surrender as required by General Lockhart.

LIAQUAT ALI SEES C.-IN-C.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): Nawabzada Liaqat Ali Khan, Deputy Leader, Muslim League party in the Assembly, had a talk with the C-in-C today lasting an hour in connection with the R. I. N. strike. It is learned that the C.-in-C. gave him the assurance that there would be no victimisation or vindictiveness of the people involved.

BATON CHARGE IN MARINE DRIVE CAMP

R. I. A. F. Men Demand Inquiry

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The R.I.A.F. men at Andheri and Marine Drive Camps, who have been on a sympathetic strike with the R.I.N. Ratings, have decided to continue the strike till their just demands are conceded. Their demands are granting in full, all the demands put forth by the R.I.N. Ratings and immediate withdrawal of armed British guards stationed in all Air Forces units as the Indian personnel are completely non-violent, equality of pay and allowances and other amenities with the British Services, concrete and immediate plan for the resettlement of all demobilized service personnel on fair wages; immediate withdrawal of Wing Commander Mukkerjee from the Inter-Services Pay Committee; non-official inquiry into the existing service conditions and and other enquiry into the Baton Charge at Marine Drive Camp on Indian airmen on the morning of February 21.

Five minutes silence was observed at Marine Drive Camp on Saturday afternoon as a mark of respect to the dead and fallen on account of Friday's incident in the Bombay area.

The aairmen, it is understood have decided to continue the strike till their demands are fully met with favour and consideration.

SUSPENSION OF TRADING IN BULLION MARKET

Bombay, Feb. 23

Members of the local Bullion Exchange suspended business to-day. Nominal quotations Silver Rs. 146 and Gold Rs. 90/8.

No Business In Cotton

Bombay, Feb. 23

No business was done in the local Cotton Exchange to-day and nominal quotation for March option was Rs. 457/8.

"ORANGES AND LEMONS...."

. . . . say the bells of St. Clements ". So runs the nursery rhyme. The church is the ancient one of St. Clement Danes in London's Strand — one of the 182 London churches destroyed or damaged by enemy action. Its bells now ring no more, and oranges and lemons are rare indeed. In 1753 James Lind, a Scottish naval doctor, first showed how scurvy could be prevented by lime juice. Since then science has proved that the health-giving properties of the citrus fruits derive from their richness in Vitamin C. Which is why oranges are specially needed for little children. No crop is more dependent on the chemist for its cultivation, transportation overseas and final distribution. The citrus trees need bud-grafting waxes and chemical fertilisers. They must be protected from frost by blankets of smoke and oil and from pests by a barrage of sprays and dusts. The scale insect, worst of all citrus pests, is destroyed by covering the trees with tents which are then filled with hydrogen cyanide gas. But for this routine treatment many first-class groves would have had to be abandoned. Chemical means are necessary to prepare the fruit for market. Oranges may be dipped in borax or other antiseptic to prevent mould, washed in dilute caustic soda and sprayed with water-wax emulsion before being wrapped in special sulphite papers or transparent cellulose wrappings. Fruit may be harvested green and allowed to ripen on voyage or treated with ethylene gas to help it change colour. Finally, wastage is reduced by keeping the fruit in cold storage or in an atmosphere of carbon dioxide gas. The work of the research chemist and the products of the British chemical industry can ensure that oranges and lemons, limes and grape fruit are firmer in body, better in flavour and more attractive to the eye than Nature unaided could achieve.

ICI

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES (INDIA) LTD.

a quick remedy for **FILARIA**

ARSENO-TYPHOID

ARSENO-TYPHOID has been successfully used since 1928 in FILARIAL FEVER, ELEPHANTOID LEG, HAND and every form of filaria.

CALCUTTA CLINICAL RESEARC
6, Chowringhee Road CALCUTTA.

CUT-FACES COMPETITION RESULTS

Four Competitors Get Rs. 500 Each

ALL-CORRECT

R. M. Kanabar,
C/o L. O. Vohra.
Minerva Mansion,
Sandhurst Road.

K. P. Achut Warrior,
12/160 Hindu Colony,
Dadar.
Bombay 4.

BOMBAY SUBURB
Frederick D'Souza,
C/o Kamani Metals & Alloys Ltd.,
Agra Road,
P.O. Kurla (G.I.P. Ry.).

DHORAJI
A. Satar Kasam Kaloodi,
Foolwady,
Dhoraji (Kathiawar).

Two Errors Rs. 25-10 as. Each

There were 39 entries with 2 mistakes so each of them gets Rs. 25-10 as.

R. M. Kanabar (11 Prizes)
C/o L. O. Vohra,
Minerva Mansion,
Sandhurst Road,
Bombay.

N. N. Gokarn (2 Prizes)
Vasant Home,
154. Girgaon Road,
Bombay 4.

Y. George,
Accounts Office,
Clothing Factory,
Bombay 11.

Chandrakant Harilal,
C/o B. J. Shah,
129, Bazargate Street,
Fort.

Miss Sherbanoo Curtay,
Police Quarters,
Bhendi Bazar.

Mrs. S. N. Shah,
C/o Hiralal T. Nanavati,
Share Bazar,
Fort.

Abdeally M. Rangwala,
Mohamadi House, 4th Floor,
Mohamedally Road,
Bombay 3.

Ramji Arjun,
Asgar Mansion,
Ground Floor,
Chira Bazar, Sonapur Lane.

Ironio J. P. Vaz,
48, Dukarwadi,
P.O. Kalbadevi,
Bombay 2.

N. B. Patell,
Ramwady Tea House,
Shop No. 1,
House No. 200,
Bombay.

P. P. Mahatre,
Goregaoker Wadi,
Room No. 22,
Gamdevi, Bombay 7.

A. L. Deoddbhate,
Plot No 139,
Cadell Road,
Mahim.

BOMBAY SUBURB

Anselm D'Souza,
100 A. Rebello Road,
Bandra, Bombay.

Hiravati L. Mota,
Mandviwala Wadi,
Sanatorium Lane,
Ghatkopar, (G.I.P.).

BARROLIA

Moosa Ahmed Mulla,
Barolia, (Post) Rankuwa,
Via Billimora.

DHORAJI

A. Satar Kasam Kaloodi (3 Prizes)
Foolwady,
Dhoraji (Kathiawar).

GAMPOLIA (Ceylon)

Mrs. R. Ratnayake,
"Srisara-Nivasa",
Gampolia, Ceylon.

GONDAL

Lal Jivan,
Nani Bazar,
Gondal,
(Kathiawar)

PORBANDER

Bhai Mohan Parshotam,
Bhoiwada,
Porbandar.

Bhai Naran Purshotam,
Bhoiwada,
Porbandar.

Bhai Purshotam Lakha,
Bhoiwada,
Porbandar.

SECUNDERABAD

M. A. Dass,
C/o Hanuman Electric Studio,
Kingsway,
Secunderabad (Dn.).

Hanuman Electric Studio,
Kingsway,
Secunderabad (Dn.).

SATARA

Sitaram Akhade,
M. C. G. H., P.O. Wanleswadi,
Satara.

TUMKUR

G. V. Parameswarapa,
College Hostel,
Tumkur,
(Mysore).

Correct Solution

Illustrations	Illustrations
A	6
B	12
C	15
D	3
E	16
F	14
G	17
H	8
I	5
J	9
K	4
L	2
M	7
N	13
O	11
P	10
Q	18
R	1

SURAT

D. P. Pavri,
Nanpura,
Surat.

Any competitor whose name is not in the above list may ask for a scrutiny on payment of a scrutiny fee of Rs. 5. This fee will, on no account be refunded if there is no entry which entitles the competitor to a share in the prize.

Scrutiny requests must reach our office by 6 p.m. 4th March 1946, after which they will not be considered.

Request for scrutiny must be sent together with the remittance of Rs. 5 by Registered Post. The Competition Manager's scrutiny result will be final.

The management reserves the right to readjust the distribution of the prizes if any entry entitled to a prize is left out by oversight.

SPORTS JOTTINGS From Here And There

By J. C. Maitra

Pataudi's Captaincy: That Batting Failure Of The East: What A Batting Order! Pat Refused To Oblige: Match Was Ruined: Umpires Must Be Obeyed: An Unparalleled Example: What's The Good? The Only Alternative: Give Youngsters The Chance

The burning topic of the day in the sporting circles is still the captaincy of the Indian team which will tour England next summer. The feelings of the public have gained considerable ground against the Nawab of Pataudi during the last few days. In my previous articles I had asked the Cricket fans of Bombay to give Pat a sporting chance in the Zonal Quadrangular in which he was to lead the North Zone. Most people will agree that he was given a fair opportunity. But he failed to prove his merit.

THAT BATTING FAILURE

Few have given Pataudi any credit for the batting failure of the East who were skittled out for a paltry 65 by North. The boot might have been on the other leg, they say, if C. K. Nayudu had invited the former to bat first on the treacherous wicket instead of taking the risk upon himself. Of course, it was rank bad batsmanship, too, which caused the collapse. If our batsmen make such a miserable show on a pitch which is not up to their taste, what will they do in England where they will find the conditions much worse? It might be C.K.'s folly to expect steady and courageous batting from our players. Actually his confidence was misplaced. But how does that prove Pat's ability for generalship?

WHAT A BATTING ORDER!

Whatever the credit for East's cheap dismissal goes chiefly to the bowlers, Amarnath and Fazal Mahmood, and the fieldsmen. I do not deny that the Captain has some share of it, too. But the real test of his merit comes at critical moments. Is there anybody who has the hardihood to praise the Northern skipper for his batting order? As far as the press is concerned he had no batting order or he should have given it to them at the beginning of his innings as was done by his rival. But apart from that, who can justify his coming out so late as at the fall of the sixth wicket and sending in a batsman of the calibre of Amarnath last?

PAT REFUSED TO OBLIGE

Thousands of spectators had gathered at the Brabourne Stadium to see these two giants bat. They were particularly anxious to see Pat in action. But he not only tried their patience sorely by differing his appearance with the bat till late in the day, but caused them utmost disappointment by going back without showing anything of his masterly batting. A player of his experience should not have been put out by the little barracking from the stands. I do condemn this kind of unsporting outburst from the public. But those who wish to appear before the limelight must be prepared to face such demonstrations.

Why did he shirk fielding on the second day? Then there was no crowd to jeer him! It is the duty of a captain to be on the field all the time when his side is fielding. Even a player must not do go out—just for taking rest as some players do when they feel tired. Such players should not come forward to play in representative matches, nor should they be selected. So Pat by relinquishing his change in favour of Amarnath failed in his primary duty as a Captain and a player. He may have won the match but his duty demanded his presence on the field.

MATCH WAS RUINED

Then there is the dispute over the declaration. Before I discuss its legal aspects, I would point out its unreasonableness. In ordinary circumstances, this closure might have been termed sporting, because it gave C. K.'s men a fair opportunity to overtake their opponents' total and make the fight interesting. But on this particular occasion, the fans were particularly anxious to see his batting. On his failure or unwillingness to do so, the match was practically ruined.

UMPIRES MUST BE OBEYED

As for the application of closure, the M.C.C. rule is definite. In a three-day match, you cannot declare on the first day. It was Pat's plain duty to return to the field promptly after the rule was pointed out to him by the Umpires. It was not for him to argue at that stage. It was for him to obey the ruling, whether right or wrong. But he did not do so. It is said that he retired as did his partner, Inayat Khan. Whatever justification the latter had—he had just registered his century—there was none for Pat. All that he had scored was a single. He is reported to have said in an interview to a pressman that he did not return to the field to bat because he had stayed out of it for more than ten minutes. This is an exceedingly lame excuse. If the Umpires and the opposing Captain permitted it, why should he have made bones about it? It was his clear duty as a sportsman to come out and resume the play—more so, when everybody around him was persuading him to do so in the interest of the tournament.

AN UNPARALLELED EXAMPLE

Now I understand that Pataudi is not going to play in the final match because he has to attend a wedding ceremony up-country. I hope has changed his mind. He has still the chance of regaining at least a part of his old reputation I wonder if

Continued on Page 13

THIRD OF THE SERIES

FOOTNOTES TO PUNJAB ELECTIONS

By H. N. BRAILSFORD

LAHORE, Feb. 23, (A.P.I.): In England we vote as individuals: in India, men vote in crowds.

Here in the Punjab.

I have been watching the buses and lorries packed with bearded, white-robed peasants, which carry them to the polls. Each displays its party flag and shouts its slogans. In a wide open space round the rural Police Station the crowds of voters gather under their rival flags. Canvassers of the two parties marshal them, while armed policemen keep order. In these villages, only the Muslims were voting in their separate electorates.

No Secrecy

The contest was between a Muslims Leaguer and candidate of the Unionist Party. Every voter, while I watched the proceedings, was an illiterate. After their names had been varified in the register, they filed up to a table where the agents of the two parties sat with the returning officer. He asked each peasant for whom he wished to vote and then, marked his ballot paper with a cross. There was and could be no secrecy.

In other provinces, a much fairer method has been adopted. In the Frontier Provinces, coloured boxes are used, green for the Muslim League and red for the Congress. The voter goes behind a screen and drops his ballot into the box of his choice, without marking it at all.

How much did this public voting mean? What had happened before the illiterate voter clambered into one of these crowded lorries and allowed himself to be shepherded to the poll?

To begin with, expenditure in the Punjab is virtually unlimited. I gather that few candidates spend less than £ 7,500 (Rs. 1,00,000) and may spend twice as much. I should have doubted these figures had they not been confirmed firstly by a banker whom the candidates importuned for loans and then by experienced British officials.

It is customary for the candidate to entertain his supporters on the night before they vote, at a lavish feast and he may also feed them, as I witnessed for myself food and drink are also freely dispensed at the polls. The competition for vehicles is so hot that candidates must spend vast sums to hire them.

Votes Bought And Sold

Votes, moreover, are bought outright on a considerable scale. Of violence also, there has been too much. Apart from all this, many of the candidates are feudal landlords whose power over their neighbours' lives is immense. Against these magnates, few tenants dare cast a public vote.

There is also a general belief in this Province that the official machine favours the Unionist Party and that the police use pressure on its behalf. I could not verify these charges, but the broad fact is that the Unionists, who have been in office for more than 20 years, are identified in everyone's mind with the bureaucracy. They are loyalists who warmly backed the war effort and for eight years past, they have had control of the police.

An election fought under these conditions is meaningless, save as a measure of the strength of rival parties. The root fact is the illiteracy of these helpless voter and their lack of any independent organisation of their own.

Over the greater part of the Province of the Punjab, there are no Peasants' Leagues and Trade Unions exist only in the larger towns. Three great powers confront the Muslim peasants—the feudal landlord, the Government and the Mosque. He adjusts himself to their pressure as best he can. Of these three, only the Mosque can reach his emotions, and it has been active everywhere on behalf of the Muslim League. It has created a fear that Islam is in danger. The clergy tell the simple peasants that their hope of salvation depends on their voting for the League and sometimes they enforce this appeal by parading the roads with a copy of the Koran.

Communal War Cry

I have heard the loudspeakers of their cars shouting the slogans, "A curse of the infidel Hindus". The result is that a wave of communal feeling has grippled the Muslims of this province, who form a slight majority of its population, and with rare exceptions, they have rallied to the demand for Pakistan. Few have thought it out in detail, but in Lahore, the average man who can read a newspaper, the clerk of the shopkeeper, does at least know dimly what it means. He will tell you that he wants a state in which the Muslims will rule. I got no further in questioning the well-educated upper stratum. When I asked whether Pakistan would build a tariff wall against Hindustan even the candidates answered: "That is for the leaders to decide."

This well-bred upper class is not fanatical. On the contrary, their outlook is often progressive. Some of them toy with Communism and many of their women have broken out of the "Purdah" system of seclusion. Fanaticism is the expedient they use to win the masses. The solid motive behind their movement is a dread of the economic power of Hindu Industry and Finance.

The real issue in this confused election in the Punjab turns on an internal split within the ruling class of Muslims, most of them big landowners. Hitherto, the Province has been run by the Unionists, who represented the landed interest of all three creeds, Sikhs and Hindus, as well as the Muslims. It is a conservative but not a communal party. It could control the Provincial Legislative Assembly but had no mass organisation behind it. Though it refused to submit to the dictation of the Muslim League, its Muslim members have declared themselves in favour of Pakistan. The Muslim League, on the contrary, is a solidly communal party, and by modern methods of propaganda, it is building up a powerful mass organisation.

The odds are that it will prove to be the stronger party of the two, but it cannot secure a clear majority in the Provincial Assembly—a bewildering fact, for, if Pakistan is ever to come into being, the Punjab must be its pivot.

Materialism And Intrigue

The Punjab, I should warn the reader is like no other province in India. Its distinction was that in the old days, Its "martial races" were the mainstay of the army. The Government rewarded its loyalty with an imposing system of irrigation. Thanks to its canals, it is rich by Indian standards, however ill its wealth is distributed. Perhaps, for these reasons, perhaps, for lack of first-rate leaders the Congress was never able to win it over. It can hold its own in the towns. It has the Hindu minority and some of the Sikhs behind it, but it has never established itself solidly in the villages, as it has done elsewhere. And that, in turn, may explain why the atmosphere of politics in this province reeks of materialism and intrigue.

The Congress has its faults, but it cannot be bought. It expects from its leaders small as well as great, a spirit of unlimited self-sacrifice. Schooled by years of imprisonment the careerists among them are very few. Not all of them share Mahatma Gandhi's lofty ethical outlook, but it has permeated the spirit of this party and given it a creative outlook which its rivals lack.

Shadow Of Terror

About these elections, I have said enough. But, already the terror of the coming famine overshadows their lives. The cold fact, officially reported, is that a general failure of the rains threatens a deficit of three million tons of grain. In our travels we have seen parched pastures and emaciated cattle. Here, in the Punjab, there will be no famine, but in less favoured regions, the dearth has already begun.

In a few weeks, scarcity will bring hunger, and hunger disease. How fully the Government has learned the lessons of the Bengal famine, the events will show. It will have to fight a ruthless battle with panic, corruption and greed. But whatever it may do, it cannot stave off Famine unless we stint ourselves to come to its aid.

Indians claim their freedom from us, but before they can receive it, millions may be facing a sentence of death by slow starvation. Their leaders are looking with painful anxiety to the U.N.O., U.N.R.R.A., and America. But our British responsibility is more personal and direct than theirs. We are still in charge of this country, and the lives of its people are in our hands. If we are worthy of the awful responsibility our ancestors assumed, we shall give them freedom, but we shall cut our rations first.

SPORTS JOTTINGS FROM HERE AND THERE

Continued from Page 12

he has availed himself of it. Pat is reported to have said that he is not on his trial now, as he has been definitely selected by the Board of Control to lead the Indian team to England. That is the pity of it! I cannot for the life of me understand why he was selected before he had proved his worth. Players are not selected on their post reputations but on their present form. Even the Captain is no exception to this rule.

Can those who voted for Pat at the Madras meeting show us a single example in any part of the world where a Captain has been selected on strength of his achievements in the distant past? It is only in this unfortunate country that strange things like this happen.

THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE

There is no other alternative left before the Board of Control than ask the Nawab to stand down from his pedestal and put Merchant back in his place. As I said before, I am not particularly enamoured of Vijay's leadership. He is not inspiring enough. He is over-cautious and fidgets too much over everything But we have no better man to replace him. There is no question about his batting abilities. By common consent he is India's No. 1. He has gained plenty of experience as a skipper during the last ten years which is sure to stand him in good stead He is not innocent of English cricket either. So he would be the best choice.

GIVE YOUNGSTERS THE CHANCE

As for the players, most of them select themselves. But, after seeing their sorry performances I am not at all hopeful about their displays on the English soil. I would, therefore, recommend that the promising youngsters should be given preference over the veterans. I concede that experience counts for a lot. So there must be a few of the old-stagers who would provide the back-bone of the team. But let the youngermen go there to gain experience so that they may be more useful in future. I am glad the selectors have wisely postponed their selections till the end of the Zonal Quadrangular. They will certainly be in a better position to judge after seeing more of them although Pat says their performances here will not be given any consideration. Perhaps he meant only himself in this category!

British Civil Servants Back 'Quit India'!

Overseas' Post For Alexander After Return From Mission?

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 20

On second thoughts to-day in the lobbies of the House of Commons, several supporters of the Government expressed dissatisfaction at the inclusion of Hon. Mr. A. V. Alexander in the mission which Lord Pethick-Lawrence is leading to India.

Their argument is that instead of dissipating suspicions and distrust about Britain's intentions, his appearance on the Indian scene will only perpetuate them. It is alleged that only a few days ago in private conversation, Mr. Alexander stoutly upheld the banner of Imperialism saying "Don't have this crazy idea of our leaving India. We are not going to do anything of the kind. We shall stay there. We have already added a bit to the Empire by taking over Sarawak."

These critics of Mr. Alexander point out that the Government might as well have sent Mr. Herbert Morrison, who wants to cling to the jolly good Empire.

It appears that the real reason for sending Mr. Alexander to India is that Mr. Attlee is trying to find a new post for him. It is believed that when he returns from India he would not be going to the Admiralty. He is being groomed for a new Overseas' post.

SUPPORT TO QUIT INDIA

The only interest Mr. Alexander has shown in Indian affairs had been his association with the great co-operative movement in Britain which has large tea plantations in Ceylon.

At the same time evidence is mounting in London that even the British civil servants in India have come to believe in 'Quit India' slogan. I am told that at least one Governor who himself is a life-long, civil servant confessed this view to some of the members of the Parliamentary Delegation who conferred with him. According to another report a famous general who has fought against the Japanese in Burma shares the view that Britain must get out from India.

Meanwhile there are indications that certain permanent officials of the India Office are expressing great perturbation at the way the provincial elections have gone. The result of Congress victory in the North-West Frontier Province left a bitter taste in their mouths.

TEXTILE WORKERS WARNED AGAINST RED FLAG "LEAD"

AHMEDABAD, Feb 22 (A.P.I.): The Textile Labour Association has issued an appeal to the workers not to be led away by the propaganda of the Red Flag Union and join the strike called out by them on the food issue. It stated that the Association was doing all it could to ease the food situation and would give a lead to the workers but a strike would worsen the food situation and harm the people.

WILL WINDSOR SUCCEED WAVELL?

Indian Princes' Move

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, Feb. 20

In the Commons' lobbies, a special tribute is paid to Lord Wavell. Many believe that it will be the most difficult job to find a worthy successor when his term of office comes to an end. In this connection it may be stated that a report is circulating in London political circles to the effect that Maharaja of Travancore is a leading figure in persuading ten Downing Street to send the Duke of Windsor as the next Viceroy. Indian Princes believe that the continuance of monarchial system is most essential for India. Otherwise they contend India will be torn asunder between opposing factions, asunder Princes are prepared to accord the Dutchess of Windsor, Royal Honours but so far they have failed in securing the approval of Royal circles here. Whether India continues under a Monarchial system or it breaks off from the Empire these Princes sincerly believe that the Indian people approve of the Duke of Windsor.

However if Lord Pethick-Lawrence's mission reaches a deadlock the Princes would be inclined to form their own confederacy and with this in mind they are suggesting, the Duke as a medium through whom they would maintain contact with the Crown.

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3. Offers in tenderer's own form in a sealed cover superscribed "Tender No. DGD/SR-3201/NFR" should be accompanied by a deposit at call receipt for Rs. 500/- deposited as earnest money in the Imperial or Reserve Bank of India or a Government Treasury in favour of Director General of Disposals, New Delhi.

4. Tenders should reach Director General of Disposals, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi by 4 P. M. on 6-3-46.

5. Offers should remain open for acceptance upto 6-4-46.

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7. Tenderers are at liberty to quote for the entire quantity or a portion thereof.

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NOTICE

THE GOVERNING BODY of the Bose Institute invites applications from qualified persons for filling up of the following posts tenable in the Institute.

A.—Heads of the Departments of (1) Botany and (2) of Chemistry; Pay—Rs. 400-25-600 per month. Appointments will be for two years in the first instance; after two years of approved service the appointments will be on a permanent basis upto the age of 55; at the discretion of the Governing Body the appointments can be extended upto 60 years. Preference will be given to candidates who have specialised for (1) in Plant Physiology or Plant Genetics (Cytogenetics) and for (2) in Plant Biochemistry or Chemistry of Plant Products.

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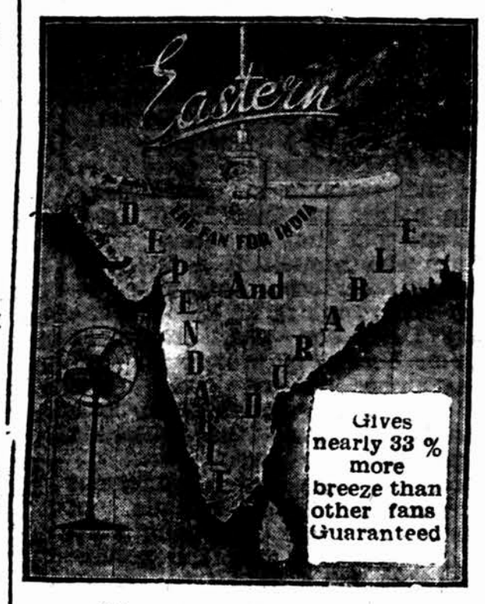
C.—Research Scholars in Physics, Chemistry and Microbiology. Pay—Rs. 50-5-60-80-100. Appointments shall be for two years in the first instance, extendable upto a maximum of five years. Candidates with special aptitude for investigations in subjects mentioned under B will be preferred. The initial salary of a person selected for a post to which a time scale is attached may be fixed at such stage in the scale as the appointing authority may deem suitable. Dearness Allowance of Rs. 20/- per month is given at present to all persons appointed under B and C.

Applications with copies of testimonials to be sent by the 20th March, 1946 to the Director, Bose Research Institute, 93, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta. 6800



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HARTAL WITHOUT SANCTION

Shameful Incidents Drag Congress Reputation Into Mire

MADURA, Feb. 22 (API): To-day's incidents should make any Congressman in Madura to bow down his head with shame", says Mr. A. Vaidyanatha Iyer, leading Congressman of Madura and President of the Tamilnad Harijan Sevak Sangh in a statement to the press.

Mr. Iyer adds: Under an allegation of hartal called on the individual responsibility of one Mr. K. N. Krishnan—not on the requisition of any Congress Committee, shops and hotels were forcibly compelled to close doors. Mob of young boys were throwing stones and mud into shops and eating houses which were open. Violence and threats were used to people who refused to close their doors. Stones were thrown at schools to compel them to close. Buses from girl schools were stopped on the way and could get away only with difficulty.

FORCE AND VIOLENCE

"Non-violence has ceased to exist in Madura city, and force and violence has come to rule the city. The Congress name is being dragged into the mire by these irresponsible acts. It is very much to be regretted that the Town Congress Committee is complacently looking on at this deterioration of public life of the city.

20 merchants of Madura city in a joint statement to the press strongly protest against the action of the Secretary, Town Congress Committee, in calling for a 'hartal' to-day without official Congress sanction, which, they say, resulted in unruly elements in the city getting the upper hand compelling shop-keepers to close their shops.

"Remove Causes Of Disorder"

NEW YORK, Feb. 23. (Reuter). Heading its leading article "Revolt in the East", the "New York Times" says to-day: "A Government, dedicated to freedom and justice as Mr. Attlee's avowedly is, wins no victory merely by restoring order. It must fnd and re? move the causes of disorder.

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FRANCO'S RULE OF REPRESSION

Spanish Organisers Of Underground Socialist Party To Face Court Martial

MADRID, Feb. 23 (Reuter): Thirty-five men will today face court-martial near Madrid on charges of organising an underground Socialist Party in Spain.

The trial is announced in cables from Madrid few hours after the French National Assembly has formally protested against the execution in Madrid on Wednesday of ten Spaniards found guilty of terrorism by another Spanish court-martial.

Today's trial will be held at Alcala de Henares. The accused are charged with clandestine reorganisation of the "Socialist Workers Party" on Spanish soil.

The French Assembly's protest recorded in a formal resolution adopted by a majority show of hands and reaffirming the Assembly's demand for rupture with the Franco Government expressed France's indignation at the use in Spain of "methods of repression and force" condemned by the civilised world.

Post-War Russia

Stalin Lays Down "Guiding Lines" For Future Soviet Development

LONDON, Feb. 23, (Reuter): Generalissimo Stalin in an order of the day to the Soviet armed forces on the 28th anniversary of the Red Army declared according to the Moscow radio: "we must raise the material level of welfare of our people and raise still more the military and economic might of the Soviet State. Within the shortest period we must heal our wounds inflicted upon us by the enemy. We must regain the pre-war level of development of our national economy and then surpass that level considerably and within the shortest possible time."

RISE OF NEW DAWN

Laying down "guiding lines" for the future of Soviet development, Marshal Stalin said, "having concluded the war, the Soviet Union now enters into a new and peaceful period of its economic development. At the present moment Soviet people face the task of consolidating the position they have gained and of advancing further towards a new economic progress.

"We cannot restrict ourselves to consolidation of what has been achieved for that would result in stagnation. We must advance further to create conditions for new and powerful development of our national economy."

TO STUDY MILITARY ART

Stating that in the new conditions, the Red Army's task would be to guard Soviet people's peaceful creative labour and render U.S.S.R.'s borders unassailable, Marshal Stalin said, "In peacetime conditions the primary task of all soldiers, officers and generals without exception is to keep on improving their military and political knowledge. All Red Army men must tirelessly study the military art, know their arms and faultlessly discharge their service duties. Officers are now required as never before to know how to train and educate their subordinates effectively."

After referring to many innovation in the art of warfare introduced during the second world struggle, Marshall Stalin continued. "it should be remembered that the art of warfare makes rapid and continuous progress. The Red army is obliged not only to keep step with this progress, but to advance it. The Red Army is supplied with first rate equipment. The task is to know this equipment to perfection, to wield it skilfully and to guard it as the apple of one's eye.

Successes in training and education of troops are unthinkable without firm discipline and strict military order. It is the foremost duty of the entire army personnel to maintain this order.

Red army soldiers officers and generals have rendered great services to the people and the Motherland, but this should not give rise to conceit or complacency."

CALCUTTA, Feb. 22. (A.P.I): About 200 men of the RIAF in Calcutta are stated to be on a 24-hours' sympathetic strike since this morning as a protest against the firing yesterday in Bombay.

Official confirmation of the report, however, is not available.

R. I. A. F. MEN GREET AZAD

LAHORE, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): The Congress President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, accompanied by Maulana Daud Ghaznavi, President of the Punjab P. C. C. arrived by a special plane at the Lahore aerodrome at 1-15 p. m.

Long before the plane was due to arrive a crowd of R. I. A. F. men who recently went on strike, started collecting at the aerodrome. Soon after the plane landed R. I. A. F. men gave a rousing reception to Maulana Azad. They hailed the Maulana as their General. One of the leaders of R. I. A. F. men stepped forward, and presented to the Congress President a purse.

When requested for a message by R. I. A. F. men, Maulana Azad told them: "India will be free as early as possible."

One of the R. I. A. F. men asked for an assurance from the Maulana that they would not be dubbed as 'traitors' after India had achieved Independence.

The Congress President replied that he regarded them as limbs of Mother India.

Azad To Address Punjab Congress M.L.A.'s

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Congress President, it is learnt, will address the newly elected Congress members of the Punjab Assembly who will meet at Bradlaugh Hall, Lahore, at 2 p.m. on February 27.

WHERE AZAD'S PLANE LANDS AT PESHAWAR

Before the plane carrying Maulana Azad took off a message was received by the aerodrome authorities that The landing ground in Peshawar had become boggy owing to rains making landing conditions difficult.

Maulana Azad therefore asked the local Congress leaders to make emergency arrangements at Chakala aerodrome for a car to take him and his party to Peshawar.

In Egypt

STUDENTS LEAD ANTI-BRITISH AGITATION

Processionists' Marching On Cairo Stopped By Police

CAIRO, Feb. 23 (Reuter): Strong speeches were made at a demonstration today inside Fuad El Awal University at Giza by students, including a number of women students who called on the men to revolt.

While Mohammed Hassal El Ashawi Pasha, the Minister of Education, was appealing to students to return to their classes and wait for Government to obtain independence and unity of the Nile Valley, he was interrupted by a shout of "no Egyptian should accept power as long as foreign troops are in Egypt."

King Farouk will receive Mr. Reginald J. Bowker, the British Minister in Cairo this afternoon, it was authoritatively learned in Cairo.

The Egyptian reply to British protest against damage to British personnel and property in Wednesday's rioting was delivered to the British Embassy today.

After meeting at Fuad El Awal University, students made a move to march into Cairo, but were dispersed by the police.

They reformed again and decided to march into the town to unite with Al Azhar students.

Lorries and police moved out of the city to intercept the marching students.

STUDENTS' DEMANDS

Before starting to march, they passed a four-point resolution declaring firstly, a three-day strike "in memory of the martyrs."

Secondly, that the Egyptian State Broadcasting System should abstain from broadcasting any music during the three days.

Thirdly boycotting the English language.

Fourthly, that the "Egyptian Mail" and the "Egyptian Gazette" (English Language papers) should be prevented from appearing on Monday next "in Memory of those who died as a result of British imperialism."

Jinnah To Visit Ceylon

COLOMBO. Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the All-India Muslim League may be visiting Ceylon towards the end of this year. According to Mr. S. M R. Masnoor of Colombo who saw Mr. Jinnah during his holiday tour recently in India.

Moral Victory For R. I. N. Men

Continued from Page 7

tative Committee had gone into the matter.

MASANI'S CHARGE

Mr. M. R. Masani (Congress) said that the Government of India had misinformed the British Prime Minister when he said in the House of Commons that the grievances of the ratings had not been previously presented. For months past Naval Headquarters in Delhi had from time to time received reports and complaints in regard to pay, food, clothing allowances, leave and travel facilities and the ividious distinction between the terms of demobilisation between the British and Indian demobilised personnel. These grievances had been simmering for a long time and came to the surface as a result of the behaviour of Commander King and the arrests of two ratings.

There was also a feeling of insecurity among the ratings.

In September 1945 there were 3,500 Officers and 28',000 ratings in the R.I.N. Since September Naval Headquarters had issued three orders in succession on demobilisation. According to the first plan, 18,500 men were to be retained, according to the second 13,000 men and according to the third only 11,000 men.

SUBMISSION OR MUTINY

Under R.I.N. rules, it was extremely difficult to have grievances redressed. One must either take it lying down or mutiny. No combined representation was permitted and the grievances had to be represented individually.

"That makes it extremely difficult for the peaceful redress of grievances to take place and men who are frustrated, whose grievances fester, are driven by the kind of conduct like Commander King's to take this grave step."

BRITISH RULE RESPONSIBLE

"Why", asked Mr. Masani, "do the people of Bombay unanimously support the mutine? it is because Indian and British conceptions of disipline differ. We do not accept the moral basis of your authority. Your law is not law to us because it has not got the consent of the people behind it (hear, hehar). That is why when your military or civil law is broken, everyone of us instinctively regards the rebellion with sympathy In other words, the real cause of this mutiny is the existence of British Rule in this country (hear, hear) I can imagine the irritation which must be caused to any average Indian in having to hoist a foreign flag over his own establishment (hear, hear). The flag which the people of this country have in the Tricolour of the Congress and the Muslim League Flag."

QUIT INDIA

Mr. Masani appealed to the British to leave the country while there was "still an Army, Navy and Air Force left in this country." They were no longer a cementing force; they had lingered too long and had become a disruptive force. The communists, who called out Bombay workers in defiance of the B.P.C.C., were fostered by Government during the war. The Communists had turned against Govrnment because they had fallen out "with their principals in Moscow."

R. I. N.'S MORAL VICTORY

"We are told that the situation is in control and that prestige has been preserved. It has been preserved no doubt—with the co-operation of men like Sardar Patel in Bombay and Mr. Gazdar in Karachi. It has been preserved because our national leaders of all parties are prepared in the interests of this country to endorse the call of the authorities. I wonder whether this kind of victory is worth having. The ratings who surrendered in the interests of their country were the moral victors of the struggle (hear, hear)."

Mr Masani urged that in view of the C-in-C assurance, nothing would be done further which would exacerbate the situation.

FOUR THINGS NECESSARY

Mr. P. J. Griffiths, leader of the many interruptions wished that on occasions like this the War Member himself was present to take part in the debate. Four things seemed to be needed, Mr Griffiths went on. An accurate estimate of what had happened should be made; then they should consider why it had happend; then sonsider what its probable effect would be and finally addressed themselves to the action to be taken. He would not hesitate to use the word mutiny in desribing the events—mutiny not in a technical sense but mutiny in a real, full and practical sense.

REAL CAUSE

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh (Congress) said that the real cause of the trouble was racial discrimination. That discrimination existed not only in the Navy, but in the Army and Air Force as well. The only way to make them loyal was to give them a National Government and an ideal to fight for. The days were gone, Dr. Deshmukh said, when the Indian soldiers were satisfied with a bowl of "kanji" when they thought that the British Government paid them. Now their national consciousness had been roused.

The War Secretary had stated that shops had been looted. Dr. Deshmukh asked who looted them. He also asked why outbreak of rioting occurred whenever there were talks of constitutional adjustments. (hear hear). Were police doing their duty? He asserted that he had information that when a post office in Bombay was burning, the police were not there.

Dr. Deshmukh asked Government to remember that the old order had changed and men of the I. N. A. and the R. I. N. demonstrated their adherence to the higher loyalty and higher discipline.

Dr. Desmukh criticised Admiral Godfrey's broadcast and considered it wrong that men who had once been praised for valour should now be condemned as muntineers because they complained today about inhuman conditions of pay and racial discrimination.

WANTED CLARIFICATION

Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, Deputy Leader of the Muslim League Party, asked for clarification of the inquiry committees which Mr. Mason said, would be set up. If Government were going to have an impartial commission to inquire into the whole question then where was the need for a departmental inquiry separately.

Referring to the complaints voiced by the R. I. N. the Nawabzada said that on more than one occasion some of the members of the House including himself had pointed out that the treatment meted out to Indian Officers were greatly resented by them.

On more than one occasion he had pointed out that there was racial discrimination which would recoil on the authorities. No efforts were made by the Government either to inquire into those grievances or remedy them. "It is the common belief of every section of the people in India that the present Government sit with cotton wool struck in their ears and they never listen to the voice of reason till such time as it is dinned into their ears. All this trouble is due to this belief and there is a general feeling in the country that there is no use of talking to them in a gentlemanly manner", he said. "Unless you create trouble they could not be roused from their slumber". The feeling was very unfortunate.

While he endorsed the desire of the War Secretary that complete discipline should be maintained in the Army he also would submit that Officers who were placed in charge of men of the Indian Army should be such as were really competent and able to command the confidence of the Indian soldiers.

PLEA TO SPARE GOVT.

Mr. Mason replying to the debate explained the difference between the two inquiries which he had mentioned would take place after the Defence Consultative Committee had examined general policy. Until a full and impartial inquiry was held, he went on, it was impossible to make up our mind as to what Commander King said. The ratings said he used that language; but no one yet knew whether he actually used that language. Commander King had denied having used it. Mr. Mason would request the opposition to keep an open mind on this aspect which would be one of the subjects of inquiry.

As regards looting of shops, Mr. Mason said that some of the reports said that R. I. N. ratings were guilty of breaking into shops, but that again was a matter for inquiry. Replying to Mr. Griffiths' remarks, Mr. Mason pointed out that the C.-in-C. had two functions. He was the C.-in-C. and the War Member. Personally Mr. Mason wished that such a situation would come to an end and we would straightway have a civilian War Member, but so long as he was C.-in-C., it would be absolutely wrong for him to come to the House and become involved in controversial questions.

A Member:— Why does he go to the Council of State? Mr. Mason was understood to say that the debates in the Council of State were less controversial (laughter).

Mr. Mason added that he could say with all sincerity that it had been the C.-in-C.'s constant endeavour on every possible occasion to eliminate discrimination. Mr. Mason could give hundreds of instances in which the C.-in-C. had intervened to prevent discrimination.

Mr. Mason asked the House not to censure the Government on this question or condemn Officers unheard, because such censure or condemnation would mean encouragement to further acts of indiscipline which he knew all section of the House wished to avoid.

The motion was pressed to a division and passed by 74 votes to 40. The House adjourned till Monday.

'Quit-Manchuria' Gathers Force

Communications North Of Mukden Disrupted

CHUNGKING, Feb. 23. (Reuter): Nationalist troops have "clashed with troops of a certain nation in Manchuria" a despatch from Peiping to the financial "Citizen's Daily News" said today.

The report said that communications north of Mukden are disrupted and the Chinese Central Government air-personnel in Peiping had been ordered to stand by.

It added "Government officials in Chang-Chun are planning to return to Peiping as operations for taking over control in Manchuria are at a standstill."

Reuter adds that the reported clash in Manchuria is not confirmed from any other sources.

"CLASH" DENIED

The Chinese Minister of Information Mr. K. Cwu, today officially denied the report published in the "Citizens Daily News" that Nationalist troops had "clashed with troops of a certain nation in Manchuria".

"QUIT-MANCHURIA"

With the exception of the Communist "New China Daily News" every Chungking newspaper played up the anti-Soviet "quit Manchuria" demonstration on Friday by over 10,000 students and some 100 professors.

Students and university faculty members are planning a second demonstration.

Among prominent Chinese who have supported resolutions asking Government to request Russia to withdraw her troops from Manchuria immediately is Hao Li Tze, Secretary-General of the People's Political Council and former ambassador to Russia.

Generalissimo Chiang-Kai-Shek was reported today to have left Hanchow, capital of Chekiang Province for an unknown destination.

Bretton-Woods Compromise

NEW DELHI, Feb 23. (A.P.I.): It was learnt in the Assembly lobbies to-day that a compromise had been reached in the Bretton-Woods Committee, as a result of which the Governor of the Reserve Bank will, as arranged originally be able to attend the preliminary shareholders' meeting of the International Bank in Washington early in March.

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World Security Depends On Indo-British Amity

Azad's Call For Rally Against Imperialism: Cove's Assurance To Jinnah

LONDON, Feb. 23. (Reuter): The demand that the British people should press for the abandonment of Imperialism in India was made by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Indian National Congress in a telegram to the British Centre against Imperialism which held its inaugural conference here today.

"The future security of the world demands friendship and amity between the Indian and the British people" said Maulana Azad. "But the British people must first discard the old methods of imperialism and exploitation before such an era of goodwill can commence. I hope that the British Centre against Imperialism will devote all its resources to changing the heart of the British people. Their efforts in this direction will be a real contribution to the future peace and progress of the world"

ANTI-IMPERIALISTS ALL

Professor N. Gangulee, former Professor of Agriculture at Calcutta University, said that there was not one Indian who was anti-British. "We are anti-imperialists, everyone of us", he declared.

"We love your people and your culture, but we hate your imperialist structure. Adopt an anti-Imperialist policy and both Dollar Imperialism and Soviet Imperialism will fall before you" he added.

India, he said, was not interested in self-Government" but wants "complete sovereignty"

"We do not want to remain within the British Commonwealth because we are racially and religiously different from your family. We do not want a constitution-making body but a Constituent Assembly. It is no use saying that we cannot have freedom because of our differences. There is no Hindu-Muslim difference in Burma, Ceylon and Malaya but they do not have their freedom The whole of Asia is determined to get rid of foreign rule". Prof. Gangulee added.

Prof. Gangulee added: the confidence of the people in India will not be won "merely by sending ministerial missions." India, he said, "is no longer afraid of British guns and aeroplanes."

SALL TO SOCIALIST FORCES

The labour Member of Parliament Mr. W. G. Cove, who presided at the Conference, issued a call to all progressive Socialist forces in Britain to unite behind the Labour Government in the demand for immediate of Indian Independence.

Mr. Cove said: I do not think that the Cabinet delegation will do much good, unless it is unequivocally announced as a definite policy of the Government that India is to be granted immediate independence; for that is the first thing which will restore confidence in India.

He added: "you cannot hace at the same time Democracy in Britain and Imperialism in India. Neither can you have United Nations Organisation with effective power for peace nation in India and colonial territand at the same time British domitories."

ASSURANCE TO JINNAH

Mr. Cove gave an emphatic declaration that no true British Socialist could support Pakistan. "I hope that we are enlightened enough as Socialists never to agree with the Pakistan policy Mr. Jinnah to fear there is no need for Mr. Jinnah to fear that a free India which was united could not grant all legitimate religious and cultural rights to the Muslims. I would say this to Mr. Jinnah: in thelong run rights and provileges of the Muslims will depend on the mass of the Indian people rather than upon the policy of division in India."

The opening session of the Conference was well attended. Subsequent sessions will deal with imperialism in colonies and the problem of world imperialism.

Jawahar's 'Offer Of Unity' Tells

London Muslim League Secretary Resigns To Join Pro-Congress India League

LONDON, Feb. 22, (Reuter): The Secretary of the London Branch of the All India Muslim League Sayed Abdul Majid Quraishy is resigning his office to join pro-Congress India League in London, cables Ronald Bedford Reuter's special correspondent

Giving me this news today Mr Quraishy said "I am resigning for two reasons—firstly, because the Muslim League has turned down Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's offer of unity in the interests of India's independence, and, secondly, because the London Branch of the All India Muslim League is not truly representative. Muslim workers have as much right to express their views as Muslim students, but this facility is not always granted to them."

Mr. Quraishy's resignation comes four months after the split in Muslim League ranks here in London. The League was then in a strong position, but quarrel over the leadership between Mr. Mohamad Abbas Ali and Mr. Ali Mohamad Khan resulted in Mr. Abbas Ali carrying on with the London Branch of the All India Muslim League with his supporters while Mr. Khan formed the London District Muslim League which is affiliated to other district Muslim Leaguers in Great Britain.

These district Muslim Leagues formed the Great Britain Branch of the Muslim League of which Mr. Khan is president

Mr. Quraishy's resignation is a sequel to incidents which have occurred at recent meetings of the London Branch of the All India Muslims League. Matters came to a head at a dinner given by the League last night in honour of Sir Nazimuddin Mr. Habib Ibrahim Rahimtoola two of the Indian delegates to the World Food Conference.

As president of the League Mr. Abbas Ali tried to silence Mr. Quarishy during his speech, but the Secretary stood his ground saying "uneducated Muslims have as much right to hold opinions about India's independence as educated ones."

Mr. Quaraishy is a waiter at an Indian restaurant and Mr. Abbas Ali a law student.

Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, General Secretary of the pro-Congress India League, said to-night complete independence for India is our aim and we accept as members and Indian, irrespective of race or creed who supports that aim. We demand India's independence as a republic."

In Punjab

LEAGUE MAINTAINS LEAD

LAHORE, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): The following is the latest party position in connection with the Punjab Assembly elections:—

Muslim League	75
Congress	46
Akalis	20
Uninoists (Malik Khizar Hyat holding threes seats)	19
Independents	6

(See page 10)

Daulatana Elected

LAHORE, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.) Mian Momtaz Daulatana, General Secretary of the Punjab Provincial Muslim League, has been declared elected from Nocowal Mohammedan rural constituency defeating Khan Bahadur Nawab Mohammed Din (Unionist) and Chaudhri Mohammed Abdullah (Ahrar)

Chamanlal Elected

LAHORE, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): Diwan Chamanlal (Congress) has been declared elected from the North Western Towns General Constituency. The following is the result:

Diwan Chamanlal (Congress) 4,499.
Munshi Nanak Chand (Independent), 22.

AFTER SURRENDER

(Continued from page 9)

has been turned into a park for a large number of military vehicles.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE FROM ADVANCE H. Q.

A joint press communique from Advance Headquarters, Southern Command, issued at 19-00 hours states "Rear-Admiral, Rattray, after his visit to a number of R.I.N. ships and establishments during the day, has submitted his report to Lt. Gen. Lockhart, G.O.C.-in-Southern Command.

The process of collecting arms from the R.I.N. Ships and establisnments is proceeding quietly and ships guns are being immobilised. Rations have been issued to all ships and establishments. Total casualties discovered in Castle Barracks amounted to one naval rating killed and two injured, there have been no untoward incidents during the day and military guards have been posted in certain shore establisments.

As regards the civil disturbances, on several occasions during the day troops have been forced to open fire on rioters. There have been further incidents of rioters setting fire to military vehicles.

Further reinfocement have been brought into Bombay."

SITUATION ON B. B. & C. I. RY.

Efforts To Run Kathiawar Express

AHMEDABAD, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): After the last two days' strike of railwaymen during which no untoward incident occurred, the railway authorities tried to run Kathiawar Express this morning. It left Ahmedabad station at 9-30 a.m., with armed police, and has safely crossed two or three stations. More trains will be run during the course of the day if the Kathiawar Express crosses the strike zone which has extended as far as Anand.

LOYALISTS TO GET 50 P. C. EXTRA WAGES

The Railway authorities have announced that those railway workers who work during the continuance of the strike will be paid fifty per cent more wages. Sweepers and some other workers have resumed work to-day.

Withdraw Military And Police

Aruna Shows Way To Appease People

BOMBAY, Feb. 23. (A.P.I.): Mrs. ARUNA ASAF ALI, IN A STATEMENT, SAYS THAT THE MILITARY AND POLICE PICKETS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTORING NORMAL CONDITIONS

In her opinion the anger of the people can only be appeased by the lifting of bans on public meetings, and allowing leaders of the people to explain to them why they should desist from provoking military violence. She demands not only the removal of the troops, but an enquiry as to whether "mass shootings" were necessary. She has suggested the formation of a relief committee and collection of funds for the purchase of sulphnamide drugs and penecillin, food and milk for the injured.

PUNJAB ELECTION RESULTS

LAHORE, Feb. 22 (A.P.I.): Khan Bahadur Faiz Mohomed (Unionist) has been declared elected from Dera Ghazi Khan Central Rural Moslem Constituency defeating Akhwand Abdul Karim Khan (Muslim League).

Mr. Beli Ram (Congress) has been declared elected from Kangra East defeating Mr. Ram Dass (Unionist) who torfeited his security.

Noon Defeats Dr. Alam

Sir Feroz Khan Noon (Muslim League) has been declared elected from Rawalpindi division Towns Mohammedan constituency. The following is the result:

Sir Feroz Khan Noon (Muslim League) 14,728.

Dr. Mohd Alam (Unionist-cum-Khaksar) 2,341.

Uncontested Returns

CALCUTTA, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): 15 Congress candidates, 10 Muslim Leaguers, 23 Europeans, one Hindu Mahasabhite and one Independent have so far been returned unopposed to the Bengal Legislative Assembly.

In addition to names announced already, the following Muslim League Candidates have been declared elected. Moulvi Hafizuddin, Mrs. Hakam (Calcutta women, Muhammadan): Khwaja Nooruddin (Calcutta South Muhammadan); and Khan Bahadur Mudassir Hossain (Birbhum Muhammadan rural)

Vaidyanatha Iyer's Telegram To Sardar

MADURA, Feb. 22 (A.P.I.): Mr. A Vaidyanatha Iyer who has been selected by the Congress Central Parliamentary Board to contest the election to the Madras Provincial Assembly from the Madura-Melur rural general constituency has sent the following telegram to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:

"Myself can't stand for the Assembly, wherefrom Rajaji is absent. Pray drop my name for Melur rural Assembly seat and fill otherwise."

CONGRESS NOMINEE DECLARED UNOPPOSED

MADANAPALLE, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): Mr. G. Venkatareddi, Congress nominee, being the only candidate to file his nomination for election to the Madras Legislative Council from Anantapur will be declared unopposed after scrutiny.

MAYOR'S APPEAL TO PUBLIC

Advises Them To Restore Peace

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Dr. Alban D'Souza, Mayor of Bombay, presiding over the Peace Committee meeting held this morning at the Corporation Hall decided to have the co-operation of the Military Police, whom they wish to be present at every strategic points. Curfew order, which was promulgated last night, was to be in force as it is, but it was to be changed in consonance with the changing situation.

They have also decided to have leaflets distributed to this effect, throughout the affected area.

The following statement was issued to the Press:

We, the representatives of the citizens of Bombay and the members of the Mayor's Peace Committee fervently appeal to all the citizens of Bombay to uphold the fair name of the City by helping in every way possible to end the disorders which have broken out.

We feel that it is the duty of every citizen to lend support to and exert his good influence on the people of various localities to stop all acts of violence and damage to public and private property. To this end the public must assist in the immediate restoration of normal traffic and all public services.

We also appeal to leaders of public opinion and the Press to advise restraint to the people and to refrain from any act or utterance or writing which could in any way be misconstrued, or delay the restoration of order and the resumption of the normal and peaceful life of the City.

EXTENSION OF CUREFW

BOMBAY Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): The Police Commissioner has extended the curfew hours from tonight. The curfew commences at 7-30 p. m. and extends up to 6-30 a. m. The area has also been extended.

And now comprises the areas bounded by the inclusive of Rampart Row, Esplanade Road, with (Mahatma Gandhi Road) Hornby Road, Carnac Road and the first Marine Street, Queen's Road, New Queen's Road, Girgaum Road, Kennedy Bridge, Nana's Chowk, Tardeo Road, Belasis Road Bridge, Lamington Road, Arthur Road, Jacob Circle over Mahaluxmi Bridge, Haines Road, Worli Road (exclusive), Cadell Road (Exclusive), Murri Road, Dharavi Road, Sion Road, Thence along the Harbour Branch Railway line to Reay Road, Reay Road, Frere Road, Mint Road, Custom House Road and Apollo Street.

Congress Nominations Final

NEW DELHI, Feb. 23 (A.P.I.): Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Chairman, Central Parliamentary Board in a statement says:—

"The Congress Central Parliamentary Board had made selections of candidates for nine provinces in its sittings of Calcutta and Delhi. The selections of only four provinces, i.e., Nagpore, Tamil Nad, Andhra and Orissa were yet to be considered. As owing to the incessant work it had nearly become impossible for me to spare time for the Parliamentary Board, I had requested Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to call a meeting of the Board in Bombay, and make the final selection of the candidates of the remaining provinces. The Board, therefore, met on the 11th February and finished the work. Now the decision of the Board is final, and no more appeals will be considered in this connection."

THE INDIAN 'MUTINY'

Causes Of Failure

VII

(BY ASOKA MEHTA)

The causes of the failure of the rebellion fall into two groups; one, consisting of factors that were beyond the control, and perhaps the calculations, of the rebels: the other, of those arising out of the limitations of the policy, outlook and the social origins of the rebels.

The year 1857 was favourable to the British in many ways. The Crimean War and the Chinese War were just over. The British armies in good fighting trim, were free to throw their might against the mutineers. In the early part of the year Persia had been defeated and a new treaty of amity and friendship had just been signed with Afghan neighbours, the threat of diversions along Bolan and Khybar passes had thereby disappeared. Internationally, the Indian rebels were isolated.

CONTROL OF THE SEA

British control of the seas helped to turn this isolation into a trap. Success or reverse in the plains of Hindustan ceased to have decisive significance. This aspect of the situation was early sized up by Herbert Edwardes. He demanded holding of the Punjab and the port towns at all hazard, because they were the fulcrum of lever for the reconquest of the **hinterland.** "Make a stand. 'Anchor, Hardy, Anchor'!", said Edwardes, "if you hold the Punjab, you will facilitate the reconquest of India from the sea-board. Whatever takes place in Central India, we shall stand in a firm and honourable attitude if we maintain the capitals on the sea, and the frontier here. Between the two it is a family quarrel, an insurrection in our home". Thanks to their control of the sea, the British could pour men and materials into India with little let or hindrance. "The Sea", remarked the Indians on seeing hordes of "red coats" along the Grand Trunk Road, "is spawning soldiers to help her children"

Heavy British remforcements poured into India. One half of the whole British army, 1,12,000 men—was sent out to crush the Mutiny: 3,10,000 men were recruited in India for the same purpose. The British troops were equipped with the most up-to-date arms, including the Enfield rifle whose introduction had marked "the greatest military revolution of the century." Though they had made gallant efforts to cast guns and manufacture arms, the rebels, on the whole were badly armed. W. H. Russell, after a careful enquiry, noted that "a great proportion of the wounds, many of them very serious and severe were inflicted by the sabre." Arms seized from Oudh after the suppression of the Rebellion show how inadequately equipped the rebels were: 684 cannons 186,177 muskets, 561,321 swords, 50,311 spears and 6,38,683 minor weapons were collected by the Government. To meet with the **talwar** the Enfield rifle—of which Nana had said: "The blue caps kill before they fire"—was to court annihilation. The rebels sought to make good their deficiency in arms by a prodigal use of men If they had had better arms, the Rebellion would, perhaps, have ended differently.

> "Had the revolted army of Bengal held the Minie rifle in their hands, Delhi might still have belonged to the Mughals; and in the place of a wretched **Charpai** in a prison chamber, the descendent of Timur might even now be sitting upon the crystal throne in the palace of his ancestors." (Charles Ball: **op. cit.** ii 609.)

The Enfield rifle was not the only modern invention pitted against the rebels. The telegraph was another; its role was aptly summed up by the correspondent of the London **Times:** "Never since its discovery has the electric telegraph played so important and daring a role as it now does in India. Without it the Commander-in-Chief would lose the effect of half his force. It has served him better than his right arm." It was not an accident that the first act of the Mutiny was to set fire to the newly erected telegraph office at Barrackpore. The "Mutiny" had come too late: Science blasted the prospects of the rebels.

SURPRISE TACTICS

The only chance of success for the rebels, against such odds, lay in delivering a knock-out blow while the advantage of a surprise attack was still theirs, for, time was working against them. If the rebellion had broken out simultaneously, as had been planned, even in the areas where it ultimately did flare up, there is little doubt that British power would have been paralysed. The lack of effective co-ordination, inevitable in so far flung a conspiracy, resulted in a premature outbreak at Mirath on 10th May instead of 22nd June (the centenary of the Battle of Plassey) the day fixed for the general rising. This premature outbreak of the Mutiny seriously upset the plans of the rebel leaders. Once the time-table had been disturbed the rebels could hope to paralyse British authority only by greatly extending the area of rebellion. They must recover in area what they had lost in timing. A wide-spread rebellion alone could then save the situation. The British were aware of the danger: "If the Scindhia joins the Mutiny," Canning had said "I shall have to pack off tomorrow." But the Scindhia never joined, not only he but all the reigning princes flocked to the rulers' camp.

There were two reasons why the Princes did not turn against the British. The Company had insisted, particularly after 1834, that no succession to a **gadi** should take place without its sanction. "The ground for this would seem to consist in the need of securing succession of rulers who would not persistently evade their treaty obligation." (The Cambridge History of India, vi, 491.) By manipulating successions, the Company had placed pliant princes on most of the **masnads.** Frequently the Imperial Government determined the choice of the Chief Ministers (in some States, e.g. Baroda, it was a treaty right). At the time of the outbreak of the Mutiny, in the two key States of Hyderabad and Gwalior the Chief Ministers Salar Jung and Dinkar Rao—were British nominees. They held their sovereigns in leash and kept them in line with continuance of English rule. The success of the Rebellion would have confronted some of the princes with rivals whom the strong arm of the British held in check. It was the underscoring of this argument by the Resident that kept the Scindhia, notwithstanding powerful pressure. from his court and army, loyal to the British. (S. C. Macpherson: **Memorials of Service in India,** 311.) The principal grievance of the princes was the denial of the right of adoption and the consequential danger of escheat. Lord Canning, on the eve of the "Mutiny," privately assured the Princes that the right was solemnly and perpetually assured to them. (S.C. Macpherson: **Memorials of Service in India,** 311.) By this stroke of statesmanship the princes were turned into the bulwarks of British power in India

VESTED INTERESTS AS OBSTACLE

The rebel authority, with the contradictions in its leadership, threatened to be weak; vested interests saw the flood-gates of anarchy opening. That the vested interests were substantial and dependent on the British is seen from the following table showing the distribution of the gross revenue of India.

Indian States	..	£ 13,000,000
Rent free lands, etc.		5,000,000
Sacrificed by the Permanent Settlement of Bengal	.. ..	2,000,000
Political pensions, assignments	..	2,500,000
		22,500,000
Revenue in British India	.. ..	25,300,000
Grand Total	..	47,800,000

Nearly half the revenue was alienated to subsidise an Indian base for British rule in India.

Lord William Bentick, defending the permanent settlement of Bengal and the loss of revenue it entailed, (Between 1793 and 1857, cultivated area in Bengal increased from 30 to 70 million acres, while the land revenue increased only by £60,000, The gains of the landlords in the period amounted to over £140,000,000.) had said, "If, however, security was wanting against extensive and popular tumult or revolution, I should say that the Permanent Settlement, which though a failure in many other respects and in its most important essentials, has the great advantage at least of having created a vast body of landed proprietors deeply interested in the continuance of British Dominion and having complete command over the mass of the people." How completely these expectations were fulfilled in 1857 is borne out by the following extract from a memorial addressed (in December 1857) by the Zamindars of Bengal, headed by Mehtab Chandra, Maharaja of Burdwan, to the Governor-General:

> "So essentially have they identified their interests with the rulers, that the natives of Bengal, men, women, and children, have in every part of the scene of the mutinies, been exposed to the same rancour, and treated with the same cruelty, which the mutineers and their misguided countrymen have displayed towards the British within their reach."

There was only one way of exploding the support the vested interests gave the British, and that was to rouse and mobilise the peasantry against the alien rulers. The rebellion because of its feudal character was incapable of essaying that. In the **Ishtahar** an appeal had been made to every section of society except the tillers of the soil. Everyone, except the **Kisan,** was promised a better deal and a fuller pail. The prospects opened out for him were of being more securely tied to the zamindar, of more intensive exploitation. The inability of the rebel leaders to rally the peasants to their side, foredoomed their cause.

FAMILY SYSTEM EXPLOITED

The participation of the Sepoy in the rebellion was at once the expression as also the cause of the mass support to it in Oudh, Rohilkhands the Doab and the North Western Provinces. The cavalry was mostly recruited from the Muslims of Rohilkhand, and the bulk of the infantry came from the Hindus of Oudh and the Doab. The Sepoys coming from the peasant class possessed intimate ties with the people. Fourteen thousand petitions had emanated, between the annexation of Oudh and the Mutiny, from the seventy-five thousand Sepoys belonging to the province against the hard-ships of the revenue system introduced by the British. Conversely, every pang the Sepoys felt vibrated through many villages. The rebellion, therefore, became in these provinces a popular uprising.

The Sepoys of the Bombay and, Madras Armies did not respond to the call of the rebellion. Unlike the Bengal Army, they were mostly recruited from men of the lower castes (The regiment of the Bengal Army was approximately composed as follows: 400 Brahmins, 200 Rajputs, 200 Muhammadans, 200 low caste Hindus.) The large number of petitions referred to above suggests that the Oudh sepoy generally came from what we would call to-day, the **kulak** class. There was a similar predominance of Brahmins and Rajputs among the landowners of Benares and Bundelkhand. The appeal of the Rebellion was addressed to the higher castes; for that reason, Sir Henry Lawrence. with characteristic shrewdness, had assured Lord Canning of his ability to defend Oudh with troops belonging to the Pasi (an outcaste) tribe. In October, 1857, Beadon wrote to William Muir, "We must depend entirely on the inferior castes" Because they came from lower castes "the family system" could be imposed on the Sepoys of the Madras and Bombay Armies. "The family system of the Madras and Bombay Regiments", wrote Canning, "gives the Government a great hold on them, especially in the present case when the families will be left in Madras" The prevalence of the family system—wives, children and other relatives of the Sepoys living with them in the Cantonments—suggests that the ties, with their village homes were much looser than in the case of the Bengal Army.

The rebellion sought its strength from **ci-devant** princes, ruined noblemen and deracinated feudal interests. These forces were incapable of overturning the well-entrenched British power with its strong Indian base; by the logic of its being the rebellion could not widen its appeal to the submerged classes who alone had the requisite strength. Its inner contraditions put a noose round the rebellion from the very beginning.

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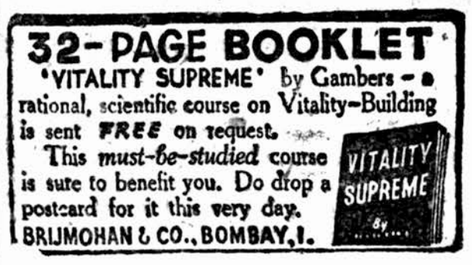
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FILM NEWS

NEWS

PICTURE OF MUNSHI STORY

Sjt. K. M. Munshi (ex-Home Minister of the Bombay Government) besides carving for himself a name in politics, also enjoys the reputation of being an able playwright—Sunrich Pictures' forthcoming production will be from the pen of K. M. Munshi. It is to be called "Swadesh" and will be directed by Ramnik Desai. It will consitt of new players—a wise move. as there is such a crying need for newer faces and fresher talent.

Sunrich Pictures is a new production venture founded by Mr. Shambholal Jobanputra. "Swadeh" will be its maiden celluloid effort. One may expect great things from a story by such a celebrated playwright as K. M. Munshi.

★

A STAR IS BORN

Talking of new faces, the other day Rafiq Anwar took me along to see the rushes of his forthcoming production, "Neecha Nagar" being made under the 'ex-gratia' licence granted him some time ago on the strength of his artistic achievements in the West, in the field of Indian dancing, and also on the strength of the training received by him at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

The rushes proved to me one thing: In Rafiq we have a brand new personality that will impress audiences greatly. His face is very photogenic and has the serenity of a Budh in peaceful moments. As to his physique, at last we have someone on our screen who can boast of a really athletic build and commanding presence—very different to the pot-bellied figures we have so long been seeing on the Indian-screen.

★

AZAD PICTURES' NEXT

"Namak" is the title of the next production to be undertaken by Azad Pictures. The story has been written by Balwant B. Dave.

A man wishes to earn an honest living but, due to adverse circumstances, he is forced to resort to gambling and gangsterdom—Such is the gist of the story of "Namak." It certainly seems a theme with a social significance as it sets out to prove that crime is often fostered by the evils of a social system that does not give a man the chance to earn an honest living and to be a law-abiding citizen.

Pundit Anuj has written the dialogue for this picture which will contain the songs of Indwar, set to music by Syambabu Pathak and Naresh-chandra.

VIEWS

Royal Opera House: 7th Week

Ranjit's devotional picture, PRABHU-KA-GHAR, narrates the story of a criminal who seeks refuge in a village where the simple faith of a village girl teaches him the error of his ways and turns his mind heavenwards.

Vajahat Mirza directed this film which contains quite a number of religious melodies. Trilok Kapoor plays the male lead opposite Khurshid.

★

Capitol: 12th Week

Prakash Pictures' HAMARA SANSAR glorifies the Hindu joint-family system. It provides very life-like vignettes of the average members of a Hindu home.

Sushil Kumar, as one of the sons, is a delight to watch and is almost as good as Rajkumari Shukla in the role of the querulous 'badi-bahu'. Ranjana does not seem too happy in the role of the choti-bahu'. Umakant is ineffective in the chief male role.

Shanti Kumar must be congratulated for his very realistic direction. The lyrics of "Hamara Sansar" were composed by Ramesh Gupta and set to music by Gobindram.

Here is a very true-to-life film.

DIFFICULTIES OF AMBULANCE MEN

The Chairman and Members of the Mazagoan, Relief Committee 9/10, Church Street, Mazagoan, Bombay. Phone No. 43169, write:—

"At about 2 p. m. on 21-2-'46 there was widespread panic at Mazagoan, following the sound of gun shot On hearing of the casulties I immediately came down to assist the people, but as my vehicle was unserviceable. I was unable to remove the injured to the hospital, I therefore got first aid administered to the injured at a local Doctor and then telephone to the Byculla Police station. The Police officer on arrival removed the injured to the Hospital

After this it was decided to found a Relief-Committee in order to prevent the spread of panic, and to give whatever help we could to the injured. This Committee came into action at 11 a. m. on 22-2-'46 with this office as above.

With two Red Cross Flags one in front and the other at the rear, of motor vehicle No. BMX. 1657, we set out on a hunt for casualties. The vehicle toured between Museum and Dadar, and during its journey it passed all the affected areas. It was most gratifying to observe the co-operation given by the people in the street. Road barricades were removed and the vehicle was allowed to pass freely. But alas we met our first disrespect of the Red Cross at J. J. Hospital junction. Pulling up near a Service Wireless Truck, we inquired "Any Casualties" we were greeted with most astonishing remarks which are omitted here for obvious reasons. Though enraged at this incident we thought of the noble work ahead of us and continued our hunt for bleeding bodies. Information was given by pedestrians that there were casualties lying in Sankli street. We rushed to the scene and with the permission of the military "Front Line" we removed one dead and two wounded to the J. J. Hospital. From there we took to Abdul Rehman Street and to Anjirwadi Mazagoan, some sick people who could not shift due to the panic and lack of transport. We again proceeded to Sankli Street and with the permission of the Major we parked the vehicle in a bylane and awaited orders.

After about ten minutes the Major and the police officer decided that our presence was undesirable and we were asked to quit. Inspite of the second insult we wended our way towards the North of the City. Between Victoria Gardens and Parel, we were halted by pedestrians who directed us to casualties" in a bylane. A Government Ambulance also pulled up behind us and we proceeded towards the injured. Before we could reach our destination panic, blood and gun shot stared us blank in the face. A military patrol on the main road, went on firing helter-skelter. We found ourselves in a very dangerous position and on arrival of one more Government ambulance to our assistance, we decided to turn back. But the cry for ambulances was so acute that we were again compelled to assist and remove twenty persons in batches of 7, 7, 5, and 1 to the K. E. M. Hospital. On our way back we again called in at Sankli Street, only to be given an ultimatum "Turn back or we will shoot". Out of Sankli Street we proceeded towards Fort, on receiving information that military had opened fire in that area. At the R. I. N. Hospital Phalton Road, we picked up one dead and two casualties and removed them to the J. J. and E. J. Hospitals respectively. Coming home we found that much had taken place during our absence. There were a number of casualties near the railway level crossing Kasara Bunder, but we were unable to pick up except one (removed to J. J. Hospital) for fear of the military patrol that went up and down.

There Is No 'Best Age'

The Great Thing Is To "Be Your Age"

By FRANCIS FOSTER

The demobilised soldier who has spent six years in the Army said that such a long time was a big slice out of a man's life and that in his case that slice represented the best age in a man's normal span—the age he would never now enjoy.

He seemed to be about twenty-five years old, so the inference was that he believed the age of the early twenties is that of the greatest happiness—for when a person refers to "best" in this connection he must obviously be thinking in terms of those activities which produce the most satisfaction.

A rash statement, of course. It would be a rash one in respect of any particular age in life, and for this reason, that any period of life can be a happy one only to the person who has achieved that age—no more and no less. I am quite certain that I, because of my thirty years of extra experience of life, could not find the faintest reason for happiness as a result of being translated back—to the days of my early manhood.

EXTERNAL SIMILARITIES

In fact, I would go so far as to say that even a person of 28 could no longer find happiness in the outlook and the actions of a man or woman of under 25. The few years' added age represents three years of growth and revaluation. There may be close external similarities between Mr. Twenty-eight and Mr. Twenty-five and between their feminine equivalents, but if they changed places, they would find that they are quite out of their element—utterly unsuited mentally to their new ages.

There is no best age in life so far as any individual person is concerned, for the simple reason that it is not really the same person who experiences all the ages of his own life: From the beginning to the end of one's turbulent existence one is in a state of change, growth and "becoming." Everything that one thinks, says and does adds something to oneself, so that a man at any age is himself **plus the effects of his own previous living.**

Perhaps there is but little significance in that fact where most people are concerned—though it certainly is a matter of interest—but there are many people who will not be their own age and who are consequently misfits. The woman of 40 who pretends to be younger, generally in order to preserve what she considers are the joys of youth, not only deceives no one but fails completely to extract any real pleasure from her efforts. An object of tolerant amusement, she is denying herself the happiness that should attend her real age and virtually losing a span of her own life.

A DANGEROUS LIAISON

There are, too, people who are intent on appearing to be older than their actual ages. Sometimes, on account of their older appearance and sobriety of outlook, they are able to deceive others; but very often they get into appalling difficulties as a result. I know of one youngster of 21 who thought he was in love with a married woman over ten years older and who, to further his aim, pretended he was 28. The consequence was not only a dangerous liaison but an astonishingly adverse effect on the later mental life of the man.

The truth is that one can auto-suggest oneself, if one's imagination is strong enough, into an entirely fictitious age without being able in the slightest degree, to appreciate the peculiar pleasures of that age. The person who auto-suggests his or her age back tends to become permanently more mentally immature than his right age through the rest of his life. Similarly the person who advances his age not only loses, so to speak, the delights of the period of life he mentally forsakes but is permanently aged by his effort. And neither is able to enjoy the delights either of their real age or of their pretended age.

Then there is the person who "lives in the past" (who, that is, seeks a sense of security, to use a psychological term, in his memory) and the person who sustains himself with the hope of future happiness. Both, by trying to escape from the reality of the present, are laying up endless trouble for themselves.

THE ONLY REALITY

For the present is the only reality, and anyone who tries to escape it is weakening his ability to cope with immediate difficulties. Into this class of people—those who are living in the future—falls the man who is always putting off the beginning of reformation from a vice. He never will begin to reform, for to-morrow is always the next day: it never becomes to-day!

Those who live in the past are pessimists, and those who live in the future are optimists; neither are realists, and as a consequence heither are effective members of society or capable of achieving present happiness.

Most of the really discontented people and the people who bear a grudge against life are those who are, in one way or another, trying to escape from the present. Useless to tell them that their outlook is utterly unsound from a philosophical as well as from a psychological point of view, for in their disgruntled state they are quite incapable of being rational. What they want is "all this and heaven too"—all the best of this and everything else besides, that is. They don't realise that they are only laying the foundations of an even worse future.

To return to our demobilised soldier—he has not really missed any of his youth as a result of having been in the Army for six years; he took his youth with him and, indeed, lived his age more fully than he would have done in civilian life. In fact, if he made the most of his opportunities of living to the full, he has laid an excellent foundation for future happiness

For the truth is that there is a "best age", after all, It is the last of one's life! But whether it is, in fact, the best for the individual concerned depends wholly on whether he has, in the past, always lived to the full of whatever age he was in and learnt all that life has to teach him. If he did that, he took the best from life and added it to himself, so that in his old age he can be reckoned a full man.

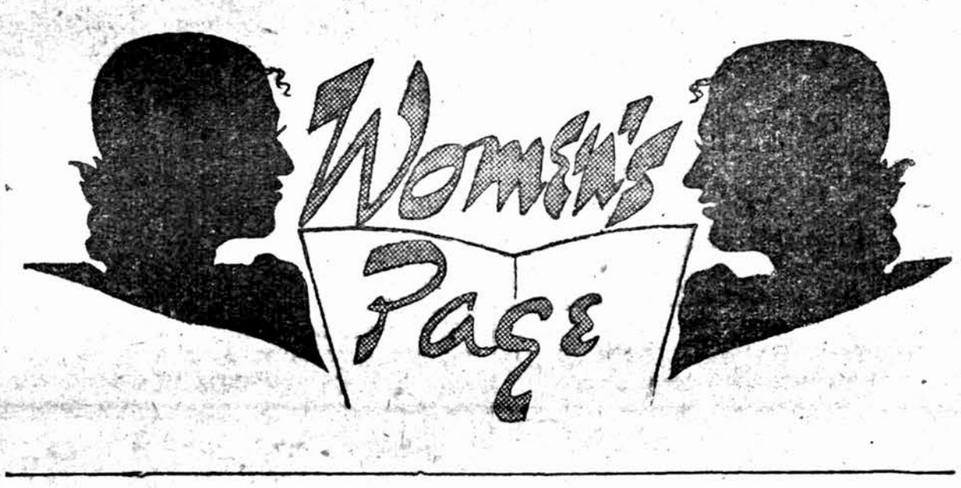
NO FEAR OF DEATH

For the aged who have lived their lives properly have so much more than we younger folk. The virtues which do not come easy to us—patience, forbearance, tolerance, and the like—shine out from them. And all fear has gone. You cannot really frighten an old person. Certainly the aged do not fear the greatest enemy of all—death—for they realise that he is an enemy only to the immature imagination of the young; to themselves he is known to be man's greatest friend.

It is very difficult for the young and the middle-aged to understand the placid outlook of the aged—difficult, especially to appreciate their attitude towards death. They are not in any way reconciled to the idea of it; they are just unconcerned, because when one has lived fully in all the days of one's life and has come at length to the end, one sees everything with new eyes and understands everything with a new comprehension and realises that death is not the close of life but a mere phase of life itself.

In Memoriam

Kasturba Gandhi's second death isited the Marble Samadhi built on the 22nd instant Mahatma Gandhi visited the Marble Samadhi been over the place where her body was cremated in the Aga Khan Palace grounds in Poona.



(Continued from Col. 4)

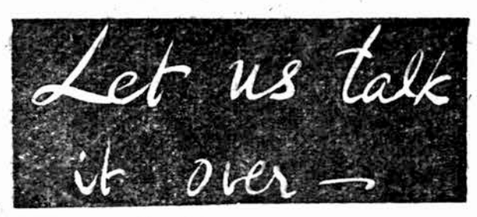
centres even in cities and towns for the school and college girls.

* * *

Rice and bread are banished from the Viceregal plate but let none of us imagine "a la" Marie Antoinette, that cakes and pastries might take their place. No cakes or biscuits will be served with tea at the Viceroy's House. Wastage (in money food and clothing) a privilege looked upon as Vice-regal, will no longer be tolerated in the Viceregal house.

Our forefathers considered wastage of food, a sin to be atoned for in next life. We called it superstition! However, we have grown wiser. Hundreds of rich and stately houses will follow the example of the Representative of the King Emperor. And shall we not wel-come it, though it be "Austerity" glamorised?

—*Leela*



It is now two years since the aged but valiant soldier of India's freedom passed away. Forever playing her own individual role and always shunning the lime light, she made a wonderful companion to one of the great test of men on earth.

To the villagers, amongst whom she lived, she taught how to **live**; she was a ministering angel, while to others who weren't lucky enough to know her personally, she was an embodiment of courage and sacrifice.

But was she really a suppressed and submissive woman—a mere shadow of her great husband, as many people maintain? To a woman of strong will, 'independent and persevering by nature" (as Gandhiji describes her somewhere) it was *not* an easy task to co-operate or put up with his experiments with Truth and Ahimsa. But in no period of their married life of sixty-two years, did Kasturba turn a Xanthippe of Socrates, or a Mhalsa of Tukaram (the Maratha Saint.). Of course Ba had many arguments with Bapu, the most famous being on the matter of cleaning chamber pots used by a guest or returning the present of a diamond necklace and making a trust of it. Though apparently she gave in, in many of the bickerings in their life, her infinite power of endurance always "made her a victor."

Gandhiji was betrothed twice and on the third time was married to Kasturba, who through her strong will, "unwillingly" became his "teacher in the art and practice of non-violent non-co-operation." Would it have made much difference in his life if Bapu had been married after his first or second betrothal?

* * *

On the first death anniversary of 'Ba' we made appeals and collected money by the lakhs. What did we do on the second anniversary that passed by and what shall we do on the third and the fourth and so on. Our part need not end merely at raising a huge memorial fund for a woman whose long life was devoted to the service of the ignorant and poor. Some of us can take the benefit of training from the Kasturba Training Centres which have been started in many of the Provinces, and work in the villages Others can spare some time during the vacation or some other period at least to go and see how the centres are working and start propaganda in their behalf to popularise them. Moreover, such a visit will surely be helpful in setting up short course

(Continued in Col 3)

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

What happy remembrances of the by-gone days rush into my memory! Sitting by the dying fire after the others had gone to sleep, I would add a fresh log or two now and then, and watch the dim fire brighten up again. The silence of the woods, the low sounds of the forest animals, the weird hooting of the owl, the silvery moon peeping like a shy maiden through the still trees, the midnight murmur of a mountain stream, and lastly the soft approach of the dawn in a sky of crimson and gold accompanied by the sweet whistle and chirrup of the birds, are things that can never be forgotten!

These are reminiscences of the camps we used to have in God's out-of-doors in my young days, when the Camp-Fire indeed was our chief attraction. The roaring fire, the bright faces lit up by the rising flames, the tall trees which cast creeping shadows, the stories, the songs, the dances, the dramatics, the jokes, the laughter, the yells, the claps, are things which haunt the mind of the camper ever afterwards. Those of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari Workers who joined the Borivli Camp will vouchsafe this.

*

Besides, on such occasions we learn—at least we ought to learn what real brotherhood is, for in a camp, the idea comes to us easily and naturally. There we consider the happiness of our comrades as our own. Helping a brother who is doing some hard work, filling up a bucket of water for a fellow who has been out in the cold, are all actions which show true brotherhood. Not to speak of the beauties of Nature which camping brings us in touch with—the Divine Beauty trying to burst into flame in our own soul.

In America, England and other western countries,—this is to be quoted because quote it we must,—even the grown-ups, i.e., the parents and the State, have recognised the value of camping for boys and girls, and the result has been many facilities for outing and camping given to the younger generation, such as free transport on the railways and the placing of public bungalows and parks at their disposal; but, you will agree, little has been done in this direction here, by the public or the State. In our country we are just beginning to do things in this line. However there is a delight in doing things for oneself though one may not be able to do them as efficiently as the professional hand.

(DRAWN BY BROTTER T. Shannurgam—14 years)

*

These camps would be an ideal programme for our Companions, and I shall write some other time at full length how these Camps may be organised. Of course, you need not wait for the article and postpone the joy of your Camps. Go ahead if you can;—and at the most, consult me if you please;—or, better invite me to join you, and I shall serve you with pleasure. Soon the school examinations will be over and you can never have a better programme than Camping for your holidays,—for your recreation and for your enjoyment.

As regards the Members—the younger children,—they also can have Camps. Why, a number of times I have myself been with them for week-ends,—and have they not on occasions accompanied us even to distant places like Baroda and to still far-off places like Karachi? Did not Dahanu children come all the way to Bombay to join our Uran excursion? We could at least arrange full-day outings and excursions for them. And yet, we should try and let them share our work in connection with the management. Thus they will feel the thrill of themselves having taken part in the arrangements, and per chance if there are any drawbacks or failures, then they will simply ignore them.

*

An elderly brother, forwarding Re. 1-4-0, wrote: "Herewith Re. 1-4-0. This amount has been collected by our little Ela for the Poor Children's Fund out of the cash present received on her birthday which fell on Sunday last. The amount is, indeed, very small; but you will appreciate Ela had no choice, really speaking, in the allocation. It only reflects the small hearts of her parents who have grown so big!"

We have thankfully acknowledged the above amount. It is a good practice for boys and girls to donate any sums—small or big—to our Poor Children's Fund.....

Well, whoever you are, wherever you are,—have you joined the great Brotherhood of Balkan-ji-Bari—The All-India Children's Association? Send for its full particulars and enrolment forms to-day from Dada—"Gulistan", Khar—Bombay 21, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing a nine pies stamp for postage.

All Good Wishes from
your loving,
Dada

"Gulistan"
Khar - Bombay 21

Mr. and Mrs. Krishnalal C. Jhaveri are the Pioneers of the Balkanji-Bari Movement at Baroda.

CHILDREN OF THE SLUMS

(Continued From Page 4)

honestly buys the stuff from the local 'bhadbhunja'.

And when she has the skirt of her frock full of this that she is seen surrounded by her satellites—the lesser brains in the neighbourhood. Kai's distribution of the commodity is quite equitable, but she gives a few grains less to boys because she has a grudge against them. She does not like it that they should be better fighters than girls when it comes to using the fists and legs and teeth to settle controversial issues—and where begging is concerned controversial issues are legion

Expert Pilferer

Besides begging Kai does a little pinching, too But her pinching business does not go beyond the limit of eatables, mostly fruit. She has a weakness for guavas which the vendor makes very attractive by incising them from top to bottom and filling the crevices with the appetising mixture of chilli—powder and salt Even stray dogs wait a moment near the seller's basket and sniff the savouring smell. While the fruit-monger is busy driving away the dog Kai stretches her thin, long arm—and behold, one guava escapes the baniers of the basket. The woman fighting dogs and flies does not even notice its disappearance And Kai seems to know the ariom that one does not feel a loss when one does not know what is lost

With the guava Kai recedes into the obscure depth of one the numerous lanes where she is immediately surrounded by her followers their mouths watering and eyes riveted on the fruit. When distribution is over it does Kai's heart good to see the pleased faces around her Free and bold in spirit Kai does not care to attend the school in the neighbourhood What does it offer to her but an uncomfortable seat in a dingy dark class-room, scoldings from bored, overworked teacher, and the maddening din of words and verse and multiplication tables being learned by rote

Dirtier,—The Better.

And she is expected to go to school in clean clothes, to wash herself, to comb her hair, to clean her teeth, to cut her nails and—the worst of all things—to sit silent Kai, therefore, jeers at these lads. Wearing clean clothes is point not worth considering because in the slums absence of clothes is the general rule among children.

Kai has never seen anybody's hair being combed. Her mother never does it. Its only purpose in life seems to be to allow itself to be pulled and torn whenever Kai's father comes home drunk and beats his wife. Nails are an invaluable weapon in such fights why should then one cut them and render oneself defenceless? Teeth are meant for eating and biting. And Kai does not understand why on earth she should have clean teeth to bite other children with. Rather conversely, the dirtier they are the better, aren't they?

Parental Quarrels

The effect of such parental quarrels on children is terrible. A friend in the A. S. Medical College once told me that in her rounds of the children's Ward she came across a boy of about ten who had tried to commit suicide. She felt very much drawn towards him and under her care he recovered fast. But when he was discharged he would not go home. He sat on the steps of the hospital and wept as if his heart would break.

He told her he found it impossible to bear the quarrels between his father and mother. He could not stand the fright and the shame they caused him and that is why he had run away from home and tried to commit suicide. Luckily for the boy the hospital folk took pity on him and he was sent to an orphanage and not to his 'home' which was to him a torture-chamber.

Such are the children of the slums. Such is the life of the childrenin the slums But one must not say too much about them. And one must not say anything at all about people who say, "Oh, well—what can we do? We can't improve their lot. After all, these children are so backward And they are low-caste—and base—born—and —for isn't it bad taste to see the truth, and moreove to tell the truth?

She Married By Atlantic Phone In 14 Minutes

Miss Lorna Kathleen Groves, a typist at the Council Electricity Department here, was at work yesterday when she was told by the local post office to look out for a very important telephone call from America at 7 o'clock that evening.

Her day's work done, she cycled as usual two miles up the hill to the village of Llandough, where she has lived for seven years with her cousin, Mrs. Dorothy Jose and Mr. Jose, a local works manager.

It was raining, and Miss Groves arrived home wet and tired. She felt "browned off," too, because her marriage to Chief Petty Officer Murray Llars Petersen, of the U.S. Navy, who had gone back to America, had been delayed for weeks owing to legal formalities.

She had not long finished tea when the telephone rang and she heard: "Are you Miss Lorna Groves? Hold on for a Transatlantic call, please."

Then came Murray's voice: "Hello Lorna," he said. He was speaking from Brementon, Washington State.

STANDING IN THE HALL

There was a minute's silence and then another voice: "This is Chaplain Young. If you can hear me clearly and you are willing, we will now proceed with the marriage ceremony."

And so, standing at the telephone in the hall of the house, Miss Grove heard the chaplain go through the marriage service—her marriage service. Upstairs in a bedroom Mrs. Jose—her one witness—listened on another receiver.

"I, Lorna Kathleen Groves, take thee, Murray Llars Petersen, to be my lawful wedded husband....." She could hear Murray's booming voice repeating the responses.

The ceremony lasted 14 minutes.

Mrs. Petersen told me today that the formalities took weeks to complete. She had to sign an affidavit before a Commissioner of Oaths. When she had completed her part of the forms they were sent to America to be completed.

Two friends were having a drink. Presently a stranger entered in sombre garb.

"I say, old man," said one, "I believe that's the Bishop of—"

"I bet you half-a-crown you're wrong."

"All right; I'll go and ask him."

He went up to the soberly-dressed man and asked: "Excuse me, sir, but aren't you the Bishop of—? It would settle an argument if you would tell me"

The stranger eyed him balefully and growled:—

"Mind your own so-and-so business!"

The other retreated hastily and returned to his friend.

"He won't tell me," he said, sadly; "so now we shall never know."

HYDROCIL

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A YAKSHAGANA POET

"PARTHI SUBBA". By Sri Muliya Thimmappaya, Senior Kannada Pandit, St. Aloysius' College, Mangalore. Published by Baliga & Sons, Mangalore. Price Rs. 3/-

This is a treatise on Yakshagana and on Parthi Subha, a Yakshgana poet. The art Yakshgana being familiar only to the coastal districts of Karnatak and some parts of the Mysore State, the subject of the treatise will be somewhat new to the Kannada literary world. The author, himself a well-known poet, scholar and a former President of the Kannada Sahithya Sammelan, is eminently fitted to introduce this subject to the rest of Karnatak.

Yakshagana, according to the author is a form of popular music, as distinguished from classical Indian music. The mention of Kinnaragana as distinct from Gandharvagana in ancient Sanskrit literature is presumed by the author to be some sort of reference to Yakshagana. However, the art being peculiar to South India, the author thinks that Yakshas might be some people of the South who originated this form of music. Stories from the great Indian Epics and the Puranas were written to this music and these are called 'Prasangas.' The words "Nalpagarana" (Nadina + Prakarana), "Ekkalagana" and "Yakshandolam" occurring in ancient Kannada literature refer to Yakshagana according to the author. He quotes many extracts from Nagavarma's "Kavyavalokana" on folk poetry and argues that "Bajanegabba" mentioned therein can refer only to Yakshagana Prasangas.

Earliest mention of a Yakshagana Prabanda which the author has pointed out, however, is in "Sahitya Sudhe" of Govinda Dikshit, a minister to Achutha Nayak of Tanjore (1617 A.D.)

Open air dramas are enacted, actors impersonating the different characters in these Prasangas and also dancing to the accompaniment of these songs, which are sung by a Bhagavathar in the background. Yakshagana troupes customarily enact the first drama of the season at the time of Deepavali and Deepavali night being called Yaksha Ratri, this might have originated the name Yakshagana and the author suggests that the ancient custom must have been to enact the story of Bali Chakravarthi on that occasion.

Yakshagana Prasangas show great literary merit and just like Dasa Sahitya, Yakshagana Sahitya is a great branch of Kannada literature. As far as the present knowledge of Yakshagana goes, the greatest among the Yakshagana poets is undoubtedly Parthi Subba. A section of the book, under notice, is devoted to the life and time of this poet. He lived in Kumble, Kasaragod Taluk of South Kanara, (probably 1760 A.D. to 1820 A.D.) as Patali in the Sri Gopalkrishna Temple, the family temple of the Maipadi Arasus. Attached to the Temple was a Yakshagana troupe and Parthi Subba (Parthi, being a colloquial form of Parvathi, mother of Subba) was probably a Bhagavathar of this troupe.

The latter half of the treaties is devoted to the Yakshagana Prasangas of Parthi Subba. The author has placed enough material before the Kannadigas to enable them to appreciate Parthi Subba as a Kannada poet. The beauty of the songs can however be fully appreciated only when they are properly sung. The language of these songs is so clear, replete with a wealth of ideas, nowhere wanting in brevity or appropriateness of expression and the songs seem to issue from the mouth of the poet as freely as breath itself. It is for the Kannada Literary world to appraise these songs properly and give this poet his due place among the poets of Karnatak.

The suggestion of the author that the works of Parthi Subba be properly edited and decently published, it may be hoped, will be taken up and acted upon early by the lovers of Kannada literature.

H. R. M.

Saga Of The Desert War

"African Trilogy" by Alan Moorehead, Thackers, Rs. 15

Though the long-drawn war in the African desert never seized public imagination as did the epic battles in Russia or the second front in France, it was one of the most decisive struggles in history. It made and unmade the reputation of a score of generals and its eventual outcome remained tantalisingly uncertain until the battle of Alamein. And while it was mechanized war all right, it still left plenty of scope for individual initiative and resourcefulness.

The story of the war in the desert thus needed to be told and nobody could have told it better than Alan Moorehead, who was on the spot through all the shifting fortunes of the struggle. His three books ("Mediterranean Front", "A Year of Battle" and "The End In Africa") have already won him high renown and he is definitely among the best war correspondents. These three books have been published together in the present volume, which will go down as a permanent and outstanding record.

Moorehead modestly calls this "a personal account of the three years' struggle against the Axis", but it is much more than that. It is factual, painstaking and faithful. His is a lively imagination but it is subordinated to the interpretation of events as they happened. His method blends both the subjective and the objective approach. And that is what makes his style so attractive. He neither dazzles nor bores us through his closely printed 580 octavo pages, though one wishes that he had ended this saga on a higher pitch.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the present book is his pen-portraits. Wavell, Auchinleck, Montgomery, Alexander and even Rommel—all are presented and judged fairly and shrewdly, though it is obvious that he does not think much of the Nazi "Greased Lightning". Moorehead has an eye for colour and a keen sense of humour—witness, for example, his description of the village of Thibar and of Madame Schmee, the presiding deity of the Grand Hotel de Thibar. In fact it is such delightful asides which make the book so readable.

With all that Moorehead knew that his job was to report the war, and how efficiently he did it can be realized from the fact that many of the dispatches he sent to his paper from the battlefield are reproduced here entirely intact. He tells us nevertheless with becoming modesty that "one man can see very little of a battle and the opinions expressed in that highly charged atmosphere are not always complete and balanced".

The very fact that they are so complete and balanced as in "The African trilogy" is high achievement indeed. How high it is can be seen from the following tribute paid by Lord Wavell in his Foreword: "Alan Moorehead is an accurate observer of events, a shrewd judge of persons and tendencies, and an attractive writer. His three volumes will be of great interest now while events are fresh, and of value to future historians as a human background for their impassive record."

"African trilogy" has its niche marked in the literature of World War II.

N. G. JOG.

Duets In Brown And White

TALES OF FOUR FRIENDS. By Pramatha Chaudhuri. Translated from Bengali by Indira Devi Chaudurani. Publishers Visva Bharati. Price Rs. 1-8.

A product of Bengal's aesthetic distillery coming under the label of Visva Bharati, needs no bush to beckon the bibliolatrous wayfarer. Its flavour and sweetness are manifest. It is therefore perhaps not so necessary to print what appears to be a left handed compliment of the "Times Literary Supplement" on the dust cover. Are the tunes and tones of an Indian melody to be measured on the British metre? Are the tinkling chimes of our temple bells to be assayed on the British kettledrum?

★ ★ ★

Second thoughts belie this patriotic zeal, for the stories here are not the delectable cameos of the Indian soul in Indian India, but the subtle heartland cruises of sensitive, gay, witty, debonair Indian students sojourning abroad. And what cruises so passionate, so fiery, so pure, so platonic—these chariascuros in brown and white.

These are pleasant tales, these tales of 'exotic amour' of the pearls of Babudom, cultured by the waters of the Hooghly and the Thames permeated with the miasma of an ecstatic sensitiveness, perceptions sharp and shining as any Muse's of Montmartre tales redolent with wit and wisdom, trite truth, caustic comment, sly, subtle speech.

These are not stories of today. They bespeak an age, of peace and plenty, quiet backwaters in some less troublous time, in the golden age before this war or earlier, when ennui reigned, and man's spirit was not burdened with the awesome weight of stern reality where minds took refuge in bouts of wafted words, barbed with twisted truth, and the air was heavy with sensuous ease.—No—Not today.

A critic who will not succumb to the inherent charm of these stories, might, if he dares criticize the thin string of the semblance of a plot lost beneath the words. He might try to measure the dream conscious with the measuring rod of reality. He might carp that the minds of all these friends are one and that their speech is one—it is but one voice that speaks for four.

But the carping cannot mar the melody of the harpsichord. If it is one mind it has many facets sparkling to different hues. If it is one gem it is a crystal that can diffract the white to seven colours.

N. M. RAJARAM.

A DAMNING EXPOSE

"BRITISH PROPAGANDA IN AMERICA" by Chaman Lal, Kitab Mahal, Allahabad, Price Rs. 3/12.

Truth is said to be the first casualty of war. The manner in which anti-Indian lies were disseminated abroad during the last few years, however, amounted to a systematic massacre of truth. No misrepresentation was too far-fetched, no method too unfair for British propaganda services particularly in America if only they could succeed in prejudicing Uncle Sam against Gandhi and the Congress. The depths to which inspired propagandists could descend in misrepresenting and defaming respected national leaders was seen in books of authors like T. A. Raman and Beverley Nichols. Most of the propaganda was, however purely for foreign consumption and its hideous nature was not realised in India until lately.

Author Chaman Lal was lucky in being able to study the propaganda on the spot in its peak years and he has rendered a distinct national service by writing this book, the substance of which was published in a series of newspaper articles immediately on his return from the States last year. Miserable attempts were made to discredit Mr. Chaman Lal on the floor of the Central Legislative Assembly but he has returned to the charge in the present volume and cited chapter and verse for his revealing disclosures. The very cartoons reprinted in this book, in all of which Gandhi is portrayed as a Jap stooge show the vile nature of the propaganda.

Apart from hired propagandists proper—and their number ran into thousands—ambassadors, generals and even bankers helped to boost the British Raj. Mr. Chaman Lal has given copious quotations to show how insidiously the propaganda racket was working in God's Own Land and how even eminent persons like Bertrand Russel and Walter Lipmann were roped in the game. Everybody interested in the good name of India in foreign countries most read this damning expose.

N. J.

The Simla Fiasco

"STORY OF SIMLA" by Dewan Ram Parkash, Dewan's Publications, Lahore, Price Rs. 2/8

Though the leaders' conference called by Lord Wavell in Simla last June has little topical interest in view of the present elections, it created considerable excitement then. Its failure has also an historical significance and its lessons are of value for the future. A number of books have already been published on the subject and the present "Story of Simla" is a welcome addition to them. It gives a connected narrative of the proceedings right from the promising beginning to its dismal end and does not mince words in allocating the responsibility of the failure where it was due.

OXFORD PAMPHLETS

OXFORD PAMPHLETS ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (No. 32, and No. 33, Price As. 6. each).

Pamphlet No. 32 on INDUSTRIAL LOCATION is written by Bimal C. Ghose, Lecturer at Calcutta University, who is also associated with several commercial and industrial enterprises. The problems of industrial location, particularly in their social and economic context, have not so far attracted enough attention in this country. These problems have been further aggravated during the present war. Bombay, Calcutta, Cawnpore and Jamshedpur are some of the heavily concentrated areas. Industrial concentrations without system and without proper planning are an evil. The idea of regional decentralisation is now finding wider favour. India is on the threshold of rapid industrialisation and it is time that the Government accepted responsibility for its planned development. Mr. Ghose has brought out in this pamphlet this conclusion by analysing the urbanisation and consequent concentration of Indian industries in particular areas. He rightly suggested that the Government must take the initiative and undertake research into locational problems.

Pamphlet No. 33 describing THE CHINESE PEASANT is written by Chen Han-seng, who was formerly Professor of History in the National University of Peking. During the war, he was in India and in the course of his work he visited many Indian villages and made a special study of the agrarian situation in this country. Both in China and in India, the overwhelming majority of the population lives in villages and, therefore, this grim economic picture of the oppressed Chinese tenant-peasant, of his struggles and difficulties, aggravated by Japanese occupation and a not very efficient war time administration, should prove instructive to us. The description of Agricultural Co-operatives in China, which are always held as a model, is illuminating The emergence of a national democratic administration, the extension of co-operative organisation and the quick improvement in the technique of production—these are basic problems confronting the Chinese peasant. They are the very problems we are trying to battle with.

V.G. K.

BOOKS

(By K. L. Gauba.)

VERDICT ON ENGLAND	6 12
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SOUR SWEETMEAT *J. J. Carlsson*	4 8
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WAIL OF A VIOLIN *K. Appasamy*	3 12
WHITHER, BARBARA? *J. J. Carlsson*	4 8
THE VULTURE—*B. Gargi*	4 0
WISDOM OF THE PROPHET *M. Amin*	2 0
INDIA'S CASE FOR FREEDOM *C. V. H. Rao*	2 4
SAYINGS OF THE PROPHET *M. Amin*	1 4
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BENGAL LAMENTING *Freda Bedi*	3 0

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

"What exactly is the role of the intellectual in the face of an emergency when starvation faces our whole people and our life-breath is being choked for lack of freedom?"

Five Indian writers put their heads together last week to answer this question and produced a manifesto which reflects their deep concern over the famine threatening the country and their view of the writers' and artists' responsibility in such a situation. States the manifesto:—

"Obviously, we cannot stand aside in the final struggle against imperialism when this imperialism has been responsible for the deep poverty and the humiliation of our country ...while we carry on our struggle for Social justice and an equitable economic order, as fighting intellectuals we are called upon at this zero hour to help our utmost to prevent the new famine from spreading. We have to invoke the highest sanctions and call upon all the respected leaders of political thought and opinion to unite now in the face of the impending catastrophe...We have to inspire our whole people with the will for liberty, so that they can make the final bid to overthrow the tyranny which has been responsible for the man-made crises in our history..."

While stressing the fact that imperialism must be removed to make a new and better economic order possible in India, the writers' manifesto makes concrete suggestions to meet the present emergency—mobilization of food stocks, heavy punishments for hoarders and other anti-social elements, private trade in food to be made illegal, rational, equitable and planned distribution of food, encouragement to peasants to produce more food-crops by moratorium of debts and reductions in rent.

"These are not to be taken as palliative substitutes for our basic national demand for freedom", they say, "but, rather, to give it a concrete shape in terms of the immediate human needs of the vast majority of our people.

"By thus focussing attention on the inseparable problems of FREEDOM AND BREAD, we not only serve notice on imperialism—which has cheated us of both—to QUIT but also point out a path of united common endeavour to all Indian patriots. The threat of famine, which we sense so deeply, is at once a challenge to our patriotism and an opportunity to unite our people in the struggle for freedom and social justice."

*

For Indonesian Freedom

Author Krishenchander who wrote "I CANNOT DIE" again wants to die and once again he can't.

Idealist, soft-spoken, non-violent-looking Krishenchander wants to take a gun and go to Java to fight for Indonesian freedom, if necessary to die there, to rouse the conscience of the world on this issue which he rightly regards as of supreme importance to India and all colonial countries engaged in a fight against imperialism.

But he cannot. First of all he can't get a passport to go to Indonesia—the Panjab Police has him on its Black List since his fiery student days and wouldn't give him a passport even to go to England! Secondly, he can't get a gun (and even if he does, I am afraid he wouldn't know how to fire it). So he did the next best thing. He sat down and wrote out a manifesto on behalf of Indian writers and artists and, out of the burning anguish of his soul, poured forth a stream of stirring prose

"...The struggle in Indonesia and in Indo-China calls for a reassertion of all those moral values which prohibit the exploitation of man by man for greed and graft. A true democracy cannot exist for the Dutch if they deny it to the Indonesians, and so long as Indo-China remains a French imperial possession France cannot truly be free. In fact all the valiant heroism of the French resistance movement would have been in vain if the character of the Republic remains imperialist. Freedom is indivisible.... what is happening in Java is of a very great significance to us. WHAT WAS SPAIN TO PROGRESSIVE AND ANTI-FASCIST ELEMENTS IN EUROPE, JAVA IS TO US—A SYMBOL, A PORTENT, A POINTER OF A NEW TURN OF AFFAIRS IN ASIA.....

"But the issues that face us in Java have more than a merely local or national significance. They are of international import and face all mankind. Men of all races and climes must accept the challenge of Java.....

"We should organise ourselves into an International Brigade not only to arouse the conscience of man against half a dozen "Lidices" perpetrated in Java but also to broaden the frontiers of human freedom and brotherhood.....

....."A sincere, honest,-to-God, downright serious effort is required to help the colonial peoples of the earth and we appeal to our colleagues in Europe and America and Soviet Russia to come to their aid in the same manner in which they sought to help the oppressed people of Spain."

The last part of the manifesto is addressed to the British:

"You have recently recognised the sovereignty of the Dutch over Java. Finding the Dutch too weak you have become the custodians of 'Law and Order' in Java. What is strong 'Law and Order' which involves the killing of thousands of Indonesians and the burning of their villages by the score? Are you fighting Fascism? Or Dutch colonialism? Or just strengthening your own brand of imperialism? And if you find these questions too inconvenient to answer, will you allow a fact-finding Commission from India, a mission comprised of all the major political parties and progressive forces in the country, to proceed to Java to find out for itself how your 'Law and Order' is working there? We hope, if you have any human values to offer to mankind, you will accept our challenge."

Both these manifestos (which have already been signed by a number of prominent authors, film stars, journalists and professors,) will be placed before a joint general meeting of the Progressive writers and the Peopl'e Theatre Associations at 4 p.m. on Sunday (24th instant) at School of Indian Music (opposite Opera House). The idea is to mobilize as many individual writers, artists and intellectuals (including film artistes and technicians, journalists, doctors, teachers, lawyers, etc.) as well as associations as possible—particularly in support of the manifesto on the Famine question. After that a united demonstration is planned in which all these "brain workers" can participate to raise their voices to demand freedom and food for their people.

All those who are interested in this agitation should get in touch with the Joint Secretary of the Progressive Writers Association C/o. The "Bombay Chronicle."

*

An Author In Search Of His Books

"Could I have a copy of Mulkraj Anand's COOLIE?"

"Sorry, Sir, it is out-of-stock. But we could order a copy from England."

"Have you got TWO LEAVES AND A BUD—by the same author?"

"Sorry, again, Sir. This one is out-of-print for some years."

There is nothing peculiar about this conversation except that the customer who wanted copies of Mulkraj Anand's novels was—Mulkraj Anand himself! An author buying his own books—that certainly is NEWS like man biting dog!

Encountering him in a book-shop, I asked him why he had acquired such a narcissistic interest in his own books. He explained that he needed copies of his novels to be given to his Indian publishers but he had not a single copy with him, having left his books behind in London. Indian editions of both COOLIE and TWO LEAVES AND A BUD are scheduled for early publication in India—if Mulkraj can beg, borrow or steal copies. And from the desperate glint in his eyes (it seems he had already visited a dozen book-stores) I gathered he would not hesitate to pinch the two volumes if only he sets eyes on them anywhere. So will an Anand fan oblige an author by lending him his own books?

*

T. P. TIMOTHY (Trichur) writes.

"I would like to draw your attention to a speech delivered by Mr. S. S. Batliwala delivered at Cannanore (N. Malabar) under the auspices of the local Congress Committee. It was mainly an anti-Communist tirade but there were one or two interesting points which, I think, are directly concerned with you.

"During his speech he told the audience about the Indian People's Theatre Association of which I believe you are an active member. According to him it is dominated by the Communist Party of India and they, as such, have entered into a secret deal with Government of India to do their propaganda work and also to supply the military with "young dancing girls' to satisfy their sexual thirst. How far these allegations are true is what I want to know..... For your further information I am enclosing a copy of the report of the speech published in the daily "Matrubhumi'....."

S K. ANANTHANARAYANAN (Tellichery) writes:—

The "Mathrubhumi", a Malayalam daily dated the 12th Feb. carried a report of a meeting or rather an election campaign held at Cannanore on Feb. 7 addressed by Mr. Soli Battliwala from Bombay. I am herewith enclosing a cut-piece of the report. Mr. Battliwala was obviously referring the IPTA. I have read much about the IPTA in your Last Page Mr. Battliwalla to whom election campaign simply meant attacking the opponents by any means wanted to show that the Communists are morally bad. In his hatred for the Communists he overlooked the members and organisers of the IPTA and its educative and cultural value. Nobody outside the lunatic asylum would level such vile charges against such an organisation of reputation. But Battliwalla has insulted the whole progressive organisation and its artistes. Will you answer Mr. Battliwalla? to keep up the honour of the organisation?

K. K. NARAYANAN (Cannanore) writes:—

In the course of a public lecture on 6th inst. at the local "Sri Narayana Park", Mr. S. S. BATLIVALA thundered at his erstwhile colleagues—the Communists. Among the various "charges" levelled against them I was shocked to hear one point being made out to discredit the Communists. The speaker had the audacity to tell the gathering that the Indian Peoples' Theatre Association was formed by the Communists to provide entertainment for the soldiers fighting on the fronts, as part of a scheme of their co-operation with the Government. Worst still was the cruel suggestion by implication, the questioning of the morals of the girl artists.

As a matter of fact, you as one of the founders of the Association very well know the high ideal that moved the founders as well as the artists to start the institution—the regeneration of our common glorious Culture.

One can very well appreciate the differences of opinion that Mr. Batliwala may have with the Communists but to stoop so low as to slander a great institution to spite his political opponents deserves the strongest condemnation. As a well wisher of the I.P.T.A., the pride of Indian Culture, I appeal to you, Sir, to nail this cheap propaganda of a renegade politician as a 'white lie.'

V. SATYANARAYANA (Bezwada) writes in the course of his letter:—

"..... Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya was glad to preside over the 60th birthday celebration of the Pithapur Zamindar who gets an annual net income of Rs. 5.50.000 excluding 'personal' and other properties. The Andhra Kisan suffered a lot in the recent cyclone. That does not matter for the zamindar. He never thought of remissions. Instead he made forcible collections for his birthday celebrations. Of course it is natural with a man like him. But what about the Andhra Congress leader?....

"A friend reminds me of the statements of Mr. Batliwala. He says that the Communists are the agents of the British imperialism. When did this gentleman discover this is not known to me. Three months back in Andhra he said that Dr. Adhikari planned and entrusted his (Communist) Party members to break the meetings of Sri Sankarrao Deo. The 'Andhra Prabha' (Telugu paper) of February 9 publishes from its correspondent a statement in which Batliwala says that the Communists threw brickbats on the crowd of 3 lakhs which was passing before their office and thus provoked the crowd, and that Communists themselves are responsible for the burning. He further said that he himself and Sri Bhulabhai Desai were present on the scene."

*

Tut, Tut, Soli!

I devoutly hope that my friend Soli Batliwala (whom I have always admired for his revolutionary zeal even though I differed from his erstwhile Communist ideology as much as I differ from his present anti-Communist ideology) has been misquoted or misunderstood in his remarks about the People's Theatre. But four "Last Page" readers, writing from different places, couldn't all have misinterpreted him. So I reluctantly take up my pen to join issues with him.

According to a waggish friend, the worst kind of Communist is an ex-Communist. He has all the prejudices and the partisan fanticism of a "Red" plus the bitterness of disillusionment, and it is as difficult for him to see his ex-comrades in focus as it is for them to forgive him his heresy. It was expected, therefore, that after his resignation from the Party we would witness some fireworks and dialectical sparks would fly about. Non-partisans like me could only be amused by it. But it seems hardly ungallant for Soli to have kept silent for all the months he was in Bombay and to start a tirade against his former associates in distant Andhra, making reckless allegations which have yet to be proved.

But we can leave their defence to the Communists themselves. They and Soli, having worked together for so long, speak the same language and (to vary the metaphor) can pay each other in the same coin! I am only concerned with what he says about the People's Theatre, for I refuse to hand over this all-party NATIONAL organisation to the Communist Party—nor can I allow Batliwala to do so!

The implications of Batliwala's reported remarks about the I.P.T.A. girls are too vile and vulgar to need any refutation. All of us whose wives or sisters or daughters have come out into the sunlight from the shadows of the harem and appeared on the stage or the screen are used to such slanders. But least of all one expected it from a rationalist and socially progressive individual like Soli Batliwala. That he has come down to this level of controversy is (to give it the most charitable interpretation) a measure of his anger and bitterness.

But nothing can justify his allegations connecting the People's Theatre with the National War Front—or with any Governmental agency. One does not have to adduce elaborate evidence to disprove the charge. Could a Government-subsidized theatre put on boards plays like NAV-ANNA, ZUBAIDAH, YEH AMRIT HAI, MARTYRS OF ASHTICHIMUR (which was staged in presence of Kamladevi Chattopadhyay), or ballets like SPIRIT OF INDIA and INDIA IMMORTAL?

The charge of being a N.W.F. agency is specially outrageous because on more than one occasion, the People's Theatre has specifically refused to have any truck with the Government or Government-sponsored organisations Indeed, in 1942-43 several office-bearers of the I.P.T.A.s first executive committee resigned on this very issue—because they wanted the People's Theatre to stage its anti-Fascist plays under the auspices of the National War Front. None of them was a Communist and the "Reds" were one with us, nationalists, in spurning the overtures from the "Front" that definitely was NOT national. On another occasion an offer of stage one of the I.P.T.A. shows (minus the anti-Imperialist ballets) for the British soldiers was received and summarily REJECTED—again the nationalists and communists being in entire agreement!

As for the charge that the I.P.T.A. is a branch of the Communist Party, one has only to give a list of the playwrights whose works have been staged by this organisation—including such well-known NON-Communists as Mama Warerkar, C. C. Mehta, Anant Kanekar, Chetan Anand, K. A. Abbas, etc.—to prove its complete hollowness. The General Secretary, the Treasurer, most members of its Central and provincial executives, are all non-Communists. So are the Music and Dance directors of its Central Troupe But of course, if the very presence of Communists in the I.P.T.A. is objectionable then one has to submit that the People's Theatre shall not betray its tradition of a democratic organisation simply to please fanatical anti-Communists.

Humorous Skit

On Umbrellas & Swarajya

By "Sorty"

Politics is the inevitable topic when friends meet. It is the fashion of the times. It was one of those much-promised "Swaraj by this March, Swaraj by the end of the year, and finally Swaraj within a decade" that we were talking about.

It was a heated discussion, which I capped saying that unless people in India are taught to hold their umbrellas properly, we cannot even dream of Swaraj. My friend was nonplussed. He could not easily reconcile my ludicrous idea with the seriousness of the topic. All the same I drove my point home repeating that people must first be taught to hold umbrellas properly—of course I mean those who use it. He was not to be taken in by this simple process of repetition. But if what follows could not convince him, I leave it to the reader to judge the type of person I had to deal with. To say the least he was incorrigible.

* * *

Catching a fast train is a craze with me; especially the down train which takes me home after a day's hard struggle at the office desk. Either I steal a few minutes off the scheduled closing time or will see that the clock is set to show the closing time earlier—of course, the office by abetting the crime—so that I may be in time for the fast.

As usual I was brushing past a crowd to catch the 5-45, with my eyes running up the indicator for a hurried note of the platform number from which the train was to move off. I had not taken a few steps forward when something struck me at the vital spot. Instantly I lowered my eyes to detect the queer object that had so dangerously interfered with my urgent task of boarding the 5-45. Well, it was the tapering end of an umbrella, just watching my next step and ready to strike at the wrong spot again, if I should dare approach it.

Through sheer instinct of self-preservation I stepped aside in time. The silly thing would not have presented such a terror but for the vigorous oscillatory motions set up by the great worthy, who was holding it parallel to the ground. He was marching past nonchalantly, without in the least minding the harm done to me. I grew indignant at his attitude and collared him with the question as to what he meant by walking like a Great Mogul in that style, that too, in a spot like V. T., prodding with the end of his umbrella every odd person hurrying by.

He had the audacity to snap back to me coolly that it was my primary duty to see the objects passing in front of me. Moreover he said, "these are days of Democracy and one is at liberty to do what he likes!" and added with a reprimanding tone that God had given me a good pair of eyes,—for which compliment I congratulated myself—and that I should make full use of them—which of course, I did by staring at him threateningly. Despite my belief in non-violence, I thought of thrashing him there and then but a very inopportune recollection of that old adage, "Grey hairs must be respected" precluded me doing so.

I don't know whether it was my undue respect to his grey hair or the adage! Anyway, the worthy escaped that day with his skin and soul in tact. I assured him, however, that the next time I see him oscillating his umbrella I will fininsh his head with his own umbrella or at least the umbrella with his head! Well, this worthy represents one group.

* * *

There is another group of individuals who carry umbrellas on their shoulders like Bhima's mace. I have a strong suspicion that they own secretly their allegiance to Khaksars, the "belchas" being substituted by umbrellas. Only an unequivocal declaration by either of the parties, say on the lines of the famous August declaration of the infamous Mr. Amery, denying all such alignment, can allay my apprehension on that score.

I have also a feeling that they represent the martial stock of our country and considering that the group includes persons from all parts of the country, its very existence serves as a forthright refutation of the British propagandist theory making invidious distinction of martial and non-martial races in India.

This troublesome lot, while carrying their weapons viz., umbrellas begin turning at all points and choice angles, during which operation they strike right across the unfortunate person who happens to be behind or beside them. They do not even pause to excuse themsleves but just walk off considering such operations as part of their daily routine.

A few radicalists among them do not like this tame show. This powerful minority carry their weapons in a slightly altered way. That is, the handle shows up on the back, turned out. Woe unto the man who walks unmindfully into the vicious grip of a radicalist. He will be just strangled to death. This particular group is doubly dangerous. Even the limb of the Law cannot bring them to book. For, they say that any loss of life caused by such strangulation passes off under the all-escaping category of accident and not Sec. 302, I. P. C.

* * *

There is yet another band which does not believe in any of the above theories. They have for their Guru no less a Brahmin in that, they adopt the copyright posture of a "purohit" with his almanac! The umbrella is held across right under the shoulder. They hold it with such dogged tenacity that even an off-chance of dislodging their potent weapon is ruled out. They are a determined lot; unlike the rest of their ilk, who strike rudely at all times, this set indulges in a subtle form of atack, which assumes dangerous proportions when they choose to get up and down stair-cases. That is their home-ground.

The more the crowd the more the chances of their hitting out. The umbrella is given just the correct tilt that the pointed tip always stares fearfully at persons tailing them. One should keep at a respectful distance from them by lagging behind two or three steps. Persons conducting themselves against this simple procedure, be it either deliberate or unintentional, will do so at their own risk. Nine in ten they will get a black eye. And for this no blame can be apportioned to the offender—I am afraid, I will be challenged one of these days for this unwarranted accusation—for the representatives of this group hold that it is the retribution served out by God himself for the improper use of that precious and delicate instrument! Here is an instance where a person falls a victim to an unprovoked attack and is still labelled "offender", while the real one takes shelter under his queer logic.

It will therefore be clear that all these men, are out for violence and what is more, they practice it with all religious fervour. And if one only remembers the theory of "Swaraj through non-violence", propounded by our foremost political leader, I think the chances of our gaining complete independence appear to be very slender. May I therefore appeal in the name of non-violence, that all these people should hereafter carry their umbrellas properly.

Complete Cure For Cholera

BY FAITH BREWER
(Former American Red Cross Staff Correspondent In India)

Discovery of what is described as "a complete cure" for one of mankind's oldest and most deadly enemies, cholera, was made by U. S. Navy epidemiologists in a controlled experiment held during a recent epidemic in Calcutta, India.

Begun as a protective measure for thousands of Americans stationed in India, China, Burma and Ceylon and the Philippines, where annually the disease rages in epidemics the experiment has resulted in a new step forward for medical science. Where before there was only vaccination against this dread disease, and that not a sure-fire preventive, there is now tested knowledge that through the proper use of plasma, sulfadiazine and saline solution, "no one need die of cholera."

100 PER CENT RECOVERY ASSURED

Where previously 30 per cent to 80 per cent of all cholera victims died, 100 per cent recovery is assured through this new treatment, according to Comdr. Julius M. Amberson, M.C., U.S.N., Officer in charge of the experimental Unit, now in Washington.

Dramatic description of the effects produced by this combination of plasma and the drugs was first given me shortly after the history making Epidemiology Unit No. 50 first came to Calcutta in June of this year.

The Burning Ghats or funeral pyres were then piled with bodies of Hindus who had died of Cholera. The American Scientists became familiar with the sunken eyes, pinched noses and anxious expressions of the victims. They learned to recognise the signs: shrunken "washerwoman" hand and feet, feeble rapid pulse, a fever, constant diarrhoea and vomitting which leaves the body dehydrated, toxic absorption which causes muscular cramps and collapse.

CALCUTTA EPIDEMIC

While the majority of the Cholera victims came from the poorer, less educated classes, it also strikes the homes of the richest. No respecter of class, age, sex, or race, the epidemic struck down 3,335 people in Calcutta from January 1 through June 16, 1945. Of these 1,192 died. Only a few Americans, who were civilians, contracted the disease, and only one, an American Negro pianist, died. Fifteen British military residents of the Grand Hotel in Calcutta were stricken and one died.

All American military were bombarded with Radio reminders and posters exhorting them to "eat only at Army Messes or Red Cross Clubs, eat no raw fruits or vegetables, drink no unapproved water, and renew your vaccinations!" Because of this excellent preventive campaign, no death among the American military personnel was reported during that epidemic. But, hardly had this epidemic reached its peak when another broke out in Chungking, China.

Comdr. Amberson radioed the procedure which his experimental unit had already determined to be highly successful to the Navy Surgeon General, Vice-Admiral Ross T. McIntire, who gave this new medical news not only to the American medical units there, but also to their allies the Chinese. A plane loaded with plasma, sulfadiazine, and saline solution went over the "Hump" to save the lives of hundreds.

Of the 400 cases in Calcutta selected by the Navy epidemiologists for their experiment, one group was treated with sulfaguanadine, one with sulfadiazine, one with penicillin, and one with sulfadiazine and pencillin combined.

In laboratory experiments it had been determined that these drugs worked against the Cholera organism. But in humans, the onset of the disease was so sudden and severe, with circulation slowed down because of dehydration and loss of blood serum, the valuable drugs could not be mobilised rapidly enough to make the battle an equal one. Because of the great concentration of red blood cells which would not circulate, gangrene set in the feet and hands of the victims.

HAPPY IDEA

Comdr. Amberson conceived the idea of using blood plasma to thin out the thick, jelly-like consistency of the Cholera infected blood, and help the patient's body perform its normal functions while the sulfadiazine got in its good work.

As soon as the plasma was pumped into the collapsing veins of a Hindu dying of Cholera, the pulse in the bony brown arm grew stronger. His lids opened, and his hazy black eyes began to focus, as he opened swollen lips to whisper huskily "Panee"! "Panee!" (Hindustani word for water).

Eight or nine days later, the Cholera victim, who would have been on a funeral pyre within 12 hours had he not received this treatment, walked out of the hospital, completely cured.

SUMMING UP

In summing up the results of this experiment, Comdr. Amberson, says in his report which will be published in December issue of the Naval Medical Bulletin:

"That sulfadiazine plus adequate quantities of salines and supportive theraphy be accepted as the treatment in mild and uncomplicated cases of Cholera.

"That this treatment be supplemented with penicillin in cases of moderate severity, especially where pneumonia is a complication.

"That plasma plus salines be administered in sufficient amounts to elicit a rapid clinical response in severe cases of shock or circulatory failure, and that this be continued long enough to mobilize the effect of the penicillin or sulfadiazine."

Only two of the cases treated had previously had Cholera inoculations. In both the onset was sudden but the symptoms were mild, and both were discharged after three of four days' treatment. This led Comdr. Amberson to observe the "Cholera vaccine is of value in lessening the severity and duration of illness. Death is almost certain without treatment. Chemotheraphy and saline solution alone will lower the expected death rate, and with the additional use of plasma, the recovery of every Cholera victim can be assured."

Rural Electrification In U. S.

(See Pictures an Page 24)

More than four out of every ten American farms are equipped with electric light and power today, serviced by private and public facilities and by systems financed by the Rural Electrification Administration, which was established by an act of the U. S. Congress in 1935.

Nine years ago only one U. S. farm in ten among America's six million farms was serviced with electricity. Candles and oil lamps illuminated millions of farm homes by methods which had changed little in a century of national growth. Electrification of farms and rural areas in the United States lagged far behind the wealth of electrical power and facilities provided for U. S. urban populations with their huge manufacturing plants and industries. In recent years through farmers' co-operative groups, the electrification of farms and rural areas in the United States has brought about the construction of hundreds of large and small power plants in all parts of the country.

Farm electrification aids the efficiency of farm labour, reduce labour problems, increase profits on many farm operations, and adds the health and relaxation of the whole family. Co-operative power systems, voluntarily organized by farmers' group and financed by the Rural Electrification Administration now operate 385,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines in 46 out of 48 American States as well as the Alaska and the Virgin Islands.

Each farmers' co-operative group operating on a non-profit basis, tries to provide low cost electric service to its members. The members usually read their own meters and sometimes compute their own bills. Such is the trust that the co-operatives have in their members.

Installation of electrical refrigeration on American farms enable U. S. farmers to enter the dairy business in addition to their other farm activities. Besides the household refrigerators found in many farm houses, a number of rural groups have large-sized community refrigerators, to eliminate spoilages of meat and other farm produce. Electricity brought to millions of U. S. farms and isolated rural communities through co-operative non-profit making projects, has greatly aided U.S. food production.

The intensive development of rural electrification in the U. S. has brought many inquiries and specialists from other lands. Twenty-six engineers from 13 Latin American nations, and two from Puerto Rico, each completed a year of work with REA in the United States and the plan may be used as a pattern for the successful development of rural electrification in many nations of the world.

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Rural Electrification in U.S.

(Story On Page 23)

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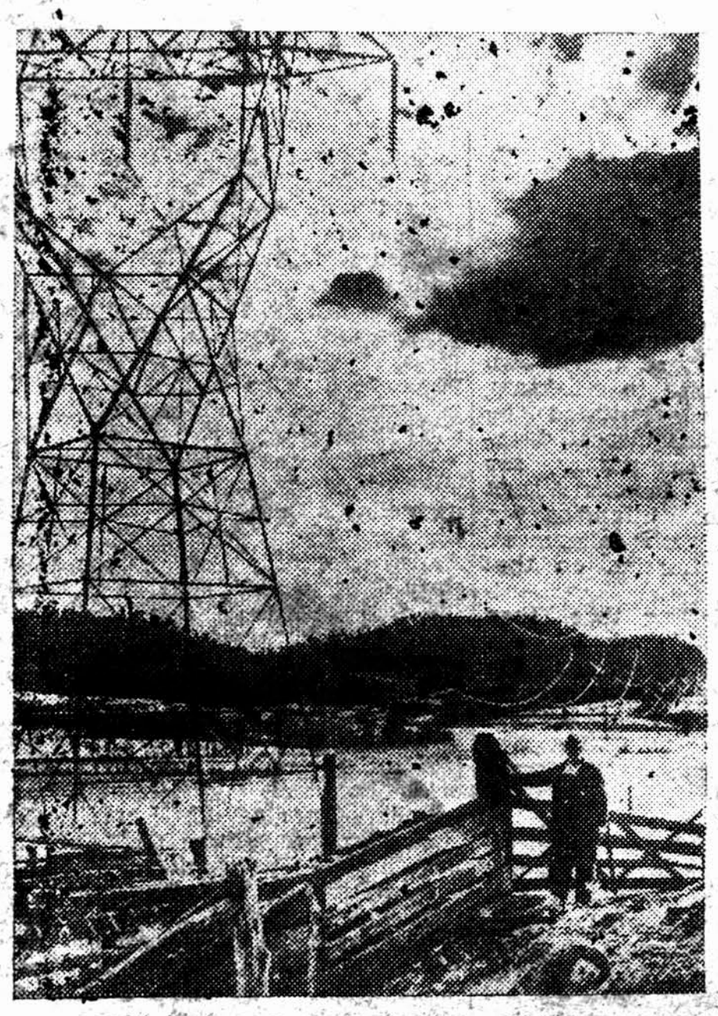
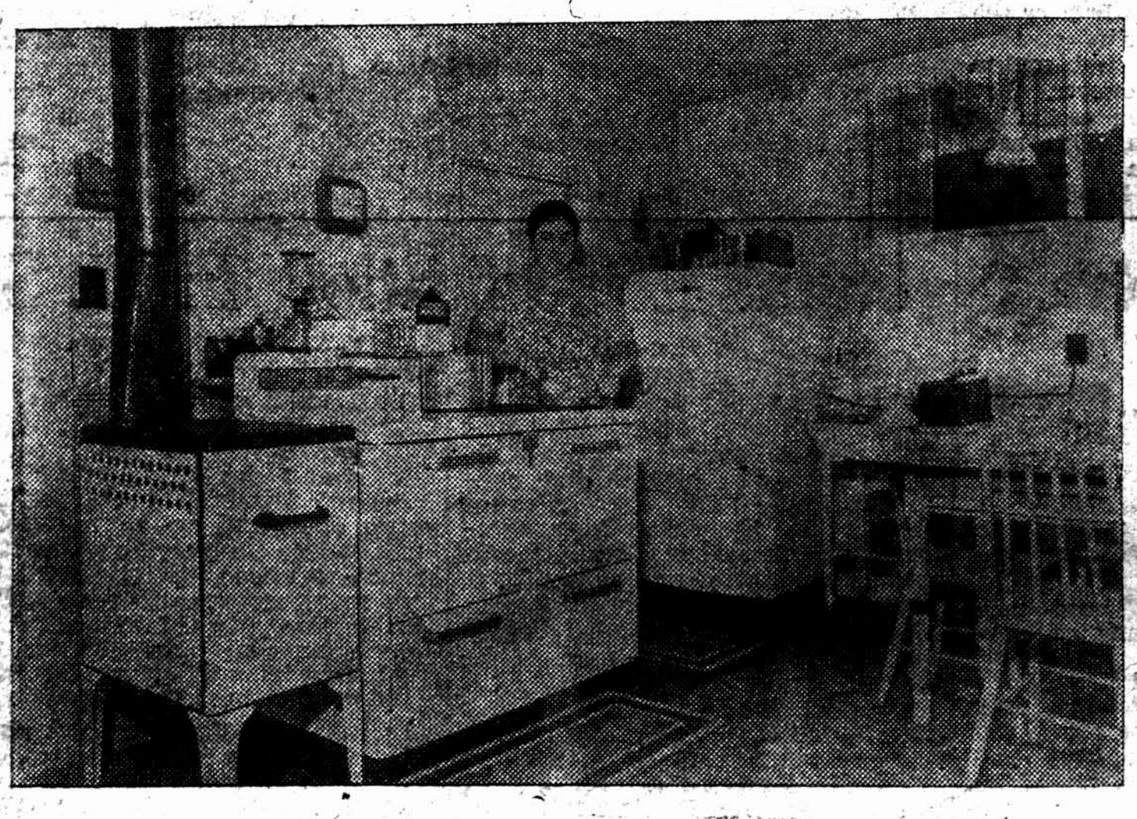
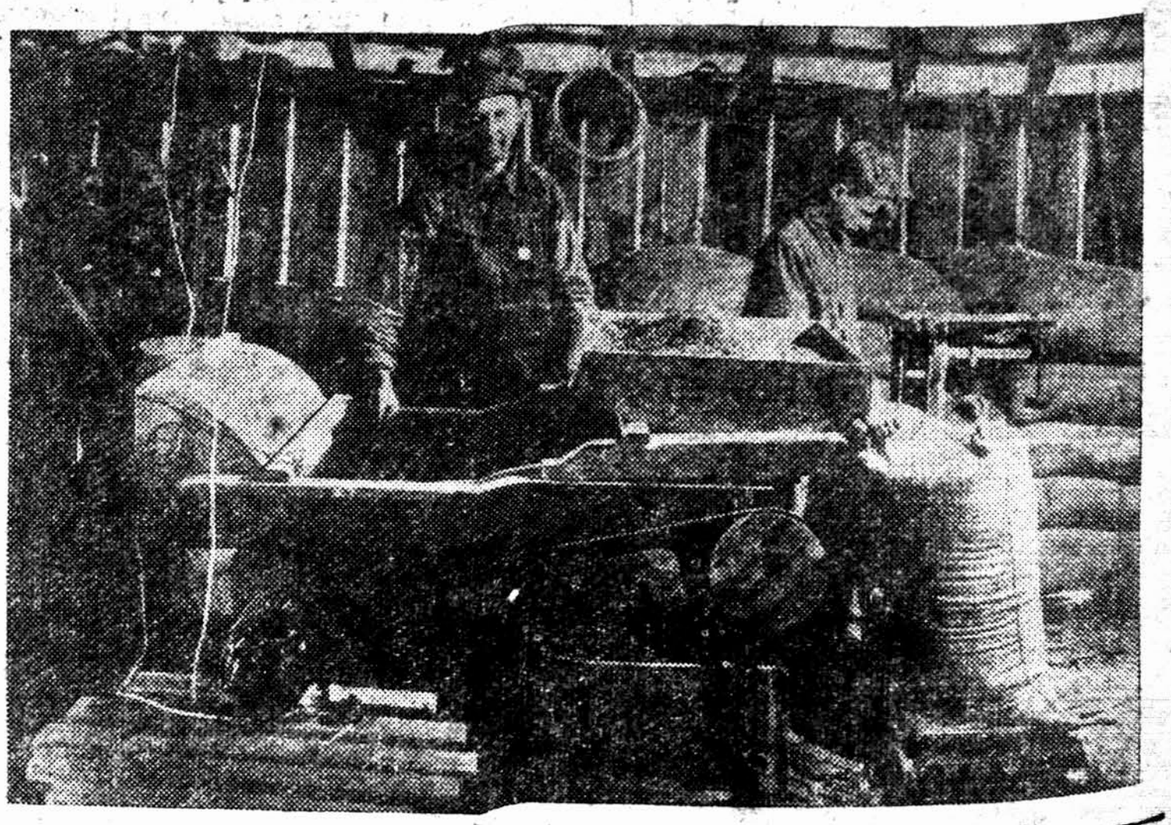


Long-distance high power transmission lines like these are found throughout the U.S. carrying electric power to remote farms and sparsely settled areas.
(Above right) The electric range or stove in this American Kitchen eliminates the need of building fires, carrying fuel and emptying ashes, thus saving time and strain.



(Above left) With power and light provided by the R. E. project, this electric iron on an American farm cuts ironing-time in half, and saves wear and tear on the housewife.
(Above right) This electrical milking machine is sanitary, simple to operate, and enable U. S. farmers to own large herds of dairy cows and market dairy products with a great saving of time and labour.



(Above) Electric sewing machines, such as this one on a U. S. farm remove the strain from much labour.
(Right) This feed mixer on an American farm was economically constructed with plans provided farmers by the R. E. A. The motor (foreground) which operates it has a portable mount so it can readily be moved from one machine to another.

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